

**BETTER  
SAY**





# Better Say

A BOOK OF HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CORRECT  
USE OF ENGLISH WORDS  
AND PHRASES

Compiled by

JAMES C. FERNALD, L.H.D.

*Editor on Staff of the Funk & Wagnalls Standard  
Dictionary; Editor of the Students' Standard  
Dictionary; Author of English Synonyms,  
Antonyms and Prepositions: Etc.*



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# KEYS TO PRONUNCIATION

The pronunciations given are indicated by the alphabet devised for pronunciation by the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association, called Key 1, and the well-known text-book key, called Key 2, both of which are used in the *Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary*

## EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

KEY KEY			KEY KEY		
1	2		1	2	
ɑ	ā	as in artistic.	ŋ	ŋ, ng	as in sing.
ā	ā	as in art.	th	th	as in thin
a	ā	as in fat.	th	th	as in this.
ā	ā, ē	as in fare.	s	s, ç	as in so, cent
e	ē	as in get.	z	z, ç	as in zest, was
ē	ā, ç	as in prey.	ch	ch	as in church
i	i, y	as in hit	j	j, ġ	as in jet
i	ē, i, y	as in police.	sh	sh, çh	as in ship, ocean
o	o	as in obey.			function, ma-
ō	ō	as in go.			chine
e	ō, ȝ	as in not.	z	zh	as in azure, leis-
ē	ō, ȝ	as in or.			ure, vision.
u	ū, ō, ōō	as in full.	ɑ	ā	as in ask
ū	ū, ō, ōō	as in rule.	ə	a, e, o, u, y	(unstressed) as
u	ū, ō	as in but.			in sofa, over,
ū	ū, ē, i, y	as in burn.			arbor, guttu-
ai	i	as in aisle.			ral, martyr-
au	ou, ow	as in sauer-			dom
		kraut.			a, e, i, u, y (unstressed) as
iu	ū	as in dura-			in habit, sen-
		tion.			ate, surfeit,
iū	ū	as in feud.			biscuit, min'-
ei	ōi, ōy	as in oil.			ute, privilege,
k	k, c	as in kin, cat,			valley, Sun-
		quit.			day, cities, re-
g	ġ	as in go.			new.

h as in loch (Scotch), *ach*, *mich* (German). ñ as in bon (French). ü as in Lübeck (German), Dumas (French).

The single accent (') indicates the primary or chief accent; the double accent (") indicates the secondary accent. The double dagger (‡) indicates a variant form.

The abbreviations used are as follows: Ar. = Arabic; Aero. = Aeronautics; Eng. = English; F. = French; G. = German; Gt. Brit. = Great Britain; Mil. = Military; Rus. = Russian; Serv. = Servian; U. S. = United States.

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# BETTER SAY

[The phonetics of this book are those of the *Revised Scientific Alphabet* devised for pronunciation by the Department of Superintendence of the NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION in consultation with THE AMERICAN PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, the MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA and the SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BOARD, and used in Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY. The sounds of the phonetic letters and diacritics will be readily understood by reference to the opposite page.]

## A

**A, an.** "No man can be at the same time a patriot and traitor." Since "patriot" and "traitor" denote different persons, the article should be repeated; thus, "No man can be at the same time a patriot and a traitor." Or *both* articles may be omitted; thus, "No man can be at the same time patriot and traitor." See ARTICLES.

**Aar'on,** 1 ār'en; 2 ār'on, *not* 1 ēr'en; 2 ār'on.

**ab'a-tis,** 1 ab'ə-tis; 2 āb'a-tis, *not* 1 ə-bat'is; 2 a-bāt'is.

**a-bat-toir',** 1 a"ba"twār'; 2 ā"bā"twār'.

**ab'ject,** ab'ject, *not* ab-ject'.

**a-bove'.** "I subscribe to the *above* statement." Better say: "— to the *foregoing* statement," or "—to the statement *given above*," or "*above given*," since *above* is properly an adverb and not an adjective, still less, if possible, a noun. "It appears from the *above*" has no sanction of approved usage.\*

**ab-sorb',** 1 ab-sōrb'; 2 āb-sōrb', *not* 1 ab-zōrb'; 2 āb-zōrb'.

**ae-climate,** *not* 1 ak'li-mēt; 2 āe'li-māt, *but* 1 a-klai'mit; 2 ā-clī'mat.

**ae-cou'ter, ae-cou'tre,** 1 a-kū'ter; 2 ā-cu'ter, *not* 1 a-kau-tar; 2 ā-eou'ter.

**ae'cu-rate,** Say 1 ak'yu-rit; 2 āc-yu-rat, *not* 1 ak'ər-rit; 2 ae'ēr-at.

**a-cous'tics.** "Acoustics are a department of science." Better say: "Acoustics is," etc. . . . See NEWS. So *dynamics, economics, hydrostatics, hydraulics, metaphysics, politics, etc.*

**a-cu'men,** 1 ə-kiū'men; 2 a-cū'měn, *not* 1 ak'iū-men; 2 āe'ū-měn.

**ad-dress',** 1 a-dres'; 2 ā-drēs', *not* 1 ad'-res; 2 ād'-rēs.

**ad-duce',** 1 a-diūs'; 2 ā-dūc', *not* 1 a-dūs'; 2 ā-dōōc'.

\* "Above. In the language of business, often used as an adjective, or even as a noun ('the *above* statement,' or 'it appears from the *above*'). Such expressions, though employed by some good writers, have the weight of literary authority against them." Consult *Faulty Diction* as presented in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

**adjective or adverb.** As a general rule, if any phrase denoting *manner* could be substituted, the adverb should be used; but if some part of the verb *to be* could be employed as a connective, the adjective is required; as, "The physician felt the pulse *carefully* (i. e., in a careful manner or with care), and observed that the patient's hand felt *cold* (i. e., was cold to the touch)." Hence it is correct to say: "He feels *sad*," "It looks *bad*," "It smells *sweet*," "He stood *erect*." In some cases either form would be correct, and the choice between them is a matter of force, emphasis, or individual taste. "He looked *keen* (had the look of *being keen*)," "He looked *keenly* (in a keen manner) at the applicant," "He looked *sad* (had the look of *being sad*) at the news," "He looked *sadly* (in a sad manner, with a sad glance) at the ruin." Compare SHARP.

**ad'mi-ra-ble**, 1 ad'mi-rə-bl; 2 ăd'mi-ra-bl, not 1 admair'ə-bl; 2 ăd-mīr'a-bl.

**ad-mit' of.** "This does not *admit* dispute." Better say: "This does not *admit of* dispute." Unlike *accept* and *permit*, *admit* properly takes *of* in such case.

"Every action *admits of* being outdone."

EMERSON *Essays* first series, p. 209. [HURST & Co.]

In such use, the simple *admit* could not be substituted.\*

**ad'verse**, 1 ad'vūrs; 2 ăd'vērs, not 1 ad-vūrs'; 2 ăd-vērs'.

**a-e'ri-al**, 1 ē-i'ri-al; 2 ā-ē'ri-al, not 1 i'ri-al; 2 ē'ri-al.

**a'er-o-naut**, 1 ē'ər-o-nēt; 2 ā'er-o-naṭ, not 1 īr'o-nēt; 2 ēr'o-naṭ, nor 1 ār'o-nēt; 2 ēr'o-naṭ.

**af'fa-bil'i-ty.** Compare note on AFFABLE. Instead of "The salesman was popular because of his *affability*," better say: "— because of his *politeness, courtesy*, or other similar phrase.

**af'fa-ble.** "The hackman was very *affable*." Better say: "The hackman was very *good-natured, polite*, or *obliging*." *Affable* is used of the bearing of a superior toward one who is socially or otherwise an inferior. A king may be *affable* to a petitioner, a conqueror to a captive, or the like. In a word, *affable* implies condescension.

**Af-ghan'is-tan'**, 1 af-gan'i-stan'; 2 ăf-ġăn'i-stăn', not 1 af-gan-is'tan; 2 ăf-ġăn-is'tan.

**a-gain'**, 1 ə-gen'; 2 a-ġĕn', never 1 ə-gĕn'; 2 a-ġăn'.

**a-against'**, 1 ə-genst'; 2 a-ġĕnst', never 1 ə-gĕnst'; 2 a-ġānst'.

**ag'gra-vate.** "He was terribly *aggravated*." Better say: *Provoked* or *exasperated*. A fever or a misfortune may be *aggravated*, but not a person.

**ag'ri-cul'tu-ral-ist**, } The shorter form is also the  
**ag'ri-cul'tu-rist**. } better: "He is an *agriculturist*."

\* "Ad-mit', ad-mitt' of. Quite different in meaning. "This gate *admits* to the grounds, but the size of the vehicle will not *admit of* its passing through." Consult *Faulty Diction* as presented in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

**ain't.** A modification of *am not* or *are not*, always inelegant, becomes atrocious when used for the second or third person; as, "he *ain't*," "*ain't* you?" "they *ain't*." "He *isn't*," "*aren't* you?" "*aren't* they?" are allowable abbreviations. In positive statement, better say: "You're not," "they're not." See **AREN'T**.

**al'a-pac'a.** A popular error for *alpaca* (pron. 1 al-pak'ə; 2 ăl-păe'a).

**al-bu'men,** 1 al-biū'men; 2 ăl-bŭ'mĕn, *not* 1 al'biū-men; 2 ăl'bū-mĕn.\*

**a'li-as,** 1 ē'li-as; 2 ā'li-as, *not* 1 ə-lai'əs; 2 a-lī'as.

**al-le'giance,** 1 a-lī'jəns; 2 ăl-lĕ'gans, *not* 1 a-lī'ji-əns; 2 ăl-lĕ'gi-əns.

**all of.** "He drank *all of* it." Better say: "He drank it *all*." *All of* is a popular idiom to emphasize the totality of that which is referred to as, "How many of those men did you see?" "I saw *all of* them." "How much of this shall I take?" "*All* (i. e., the whole) of it." But the best literary usage omits the *of* as needless, preferring "I saw them *all*," "Take it *all*," etc.

**alm'ond,** 1 ā- or al'mənd; 2 ă- or ăl'mond.

**ams,** } 1 āmz, āmz'gĭv'ĭŋ; 2 ăms, ăms'gĭv'ĭŋ,

**ams'gĭv'ĭŋ,** } *not* 1 amz, amz'gĭv'ĭŋ; 2 ăms, ăms'gĭv'ĭŋ.

**a-lu'mi-num,** } Scientific usage varies, but *aluminum*

**al'u-mĭn'i-um.** } appears to be the form now preferred by manufacturers and in commercial speech as well as by most chemists.

**am'a-teur',** 1 am'ə-tŭr' [or -tiŭr']; 2 ăm'a-tŭr' [or -tŭr'], *not* 1 am'ə-chŭr; 2 ăm'a-chŭr.

**a-me'na-ble,** 1 ə-mĭ'nə-bl; 2 a-mĕ'na-bl, *not* 1 ə-me'nə-bl; 2 a-mĕ'na-bl.

**a-men'i-ty,** 1 ə-men'ĭ-tĭ; 2 a-mĕn'ĭ-ty, *not* 1 ə-mĭn'ĭ-tĭ; 2 a-mĕn'ĭ-ty.

**a-mong' one an-oth'er.** "They exchange confidences *among one another*" should be "*among themselves*" or "*with each other*."

**and.** "A language like the French *and* German." There is no language that is at once French and German. Say rather: "A language like the French *or* the German"; or you may use the plural, and say: "Languages like the French *and* the German." Compare **THE**.

"The tumult *and* the shouting *dies*."

KIPLING *Recessional*.

This usage may be conceded by poetic license. The

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\* Disputed pronunciations in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY were referred to a special Advisory Committee of twenty-five eminent educators in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, India, and South Africa—men who are recognized as scholars of international reputation throughout the English-speaking world. The individual preferences of the members of this committee, as well as of the principal dictionaries, are indicated in every instance in the sections devoted to *Disputed Pronunciations* in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY. The weight of authority is as indicated here.

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For Keys to Symbols used, see page 2.

poet needed a rime for *sacrifice*. In prose the only construction would be "the tumult and the shouting *die*." "His valor and patriotism *are* (not *is*) well known." Two or more singular nouns connected by *and* properly take a plural verb, since they form a composite subject. Compare *OR*.

**an'-mal'cules.** Plural of *ANIMALCULE*: sometimes improperly *animalculæ*. (The Latin *singular* is *animalculum*, the plural of which would be *animalcula*. The English form, *animalcule*, with plural *animalcules*, is to be preferred.)

**an-oth'er from.** "Jurisprudence of *another* kind from that of Jeffries." Better say: "—of *another* kind than that of Jeffries."

**an-tip'o-des**, 1 an-tip'o-dīz; 2 ăn-tīp'o-dēs, not 1 an'ti-pōdz; 2 ăn'ti-pōdz.

**an'y.** "The mother is better than *any* of the family." Better say: "—than *any other one* of the family" or "—than *all the others* (or *all the rest*) of the family." The comparative degree always *excludes* the object compared from among the objects with which it is compared. "The blacksmith is stronger than *any* man" or "stronger than all men," would imply that the blacksmith is not a man. The correct statement would be: "The blacksmith is stronger than *all other* men." He is on one side, and *all other* men (not *all* men) opposed to him. Compare *OF ALL OTHERS*.

**an'y place.** [Western U. S.] Erroneously for *anywhere*. See *PLACE*.

**an'y-way, an'y-where.** Frequently misspelled with a superfluous *s*: *anyways, anywheres*. The simple *anyway, anywhere* are the only correct forms.

**a-part'.** "The counsel took the witness *apart* to examine him." *Apart* may mean "away from others"; as, "to go *apart* by oneself." But the word *apart* also means, "part from part, in or to pieces, asunder." Hence its use in the case of persons is liable to unfortunate or comical ambiguity. Better say: "He took the witness *aside* to confer with him."

**a-pos'tle**, 1 ə-pes'tl; 2 a-pös'tl, not 1 ə-pes'tl; 2 a-pös'tl, nor 1 ə-pes'ul; 2 a-pös'ül.

**ap'o-the'o-sis**, 1 ap'o-thī'o-sis; 2 ăp'o-thē'o-sīs, not 1 ə-peth'e-ō'sis; 2 a-poth'ē-ō'sīs.

**ap-par'ent**, 1 a-pār'ent; 2 ă-pār'ënt, not 1 a-pēr'ent; 2 ă-pār'ënt.

**ap'pli-ca-ble**, 1 ap'li-kə-bl; 2 ăp'li-ca-bl, not 1 ə-plik'a-bl; 2 a-plīe'a-bl.

**ap-pre'ci-a'tion**, 1 a-prī'shi-ē'shən; 2 ă-prē'shi-ā'shon, not 1 a-prī'si-ē'shən; 2 ă-prē'si-ā'shon.

**Ar'ab**, 1 ar'əb; 2 ăr'ab, not 1 ē'rab; 2 ă'răb.

**Ar'a-bic**, 1 ar'a-bik; 2 ăr'a-bīe, not 1 ə-rē'bik; 2 a-rā'bīe; so, gum ar'a-bic, 1 gum ar'ə-bik; 2 gŭm ăr'a-bīe, not 1 gum ə-rē'bik; 2 gŭm a-rā'bīe.



**cr-bu'tus**, 1 ā-r-biū'tus; 2 ār-bū'tūs, *rather than* 1 ā-r'biu-tus; 2 ār'bū-tūs.

**ar'du-ous**, 1 ā-r'jū-[or-diū-]us; 2 ār'jū-[or-dū-]ūs, *not* 1 ā-r'-jus; 2 ār'jūs.

**a're-a**, 1 ē-rī-a; 2 ā're-a, *not* 1 ē-rī; 2 ā're, *nor* 1 ā-r': 2 ār'e.

**aren't**. "We *aren't* sorry"; "you *aren't* far wrong." Better say: "We're *not*," "you're *not*." When the subject follows, *aren't* is correct; as, "Aren't we (*aren't* you, *aren't* they) right?"

**ar-raign'** *at, before, for, on, upon*. "The criminal was arraigned *at* the court." No; a criminal is arraigned *at* the bar; *before* the tribunal or court; *for* a crime; *on* an indictment; *upon* discovery of his crime.\*

**articles**. Two or more words connected by *and* referring to different things should each have the article, if either has it; when they denote the same thing, the article is commonly used with the first only. "The black-and-white horse" would denote one horse marked with the two colors black and white. "The black and the white horse" would denote two horses, one black and the other white. Omitting the article altogether, we may say: "Black and white horses are in striking contrast." "Wood and coal are very unlike."

**as fol'lows**. *As follows* is used to introduce an enumeration, however many the items may be: "Two names were read *as follows*: 'John,' 'James,'" *not as follow*.

**asked**, 1 askt; 2 áskt, *not* 1 ast; 2 ást, *nor* 1 ūst; 2 ást. (Sound the *k*.)

**as-pir'ant**, 1 as-pair'ant; 2 ás-pīr'ant, *not* 1 as'pi-rant; 2 ás'pī-rant.

**as — than**. An impossible combination. "The new building is *as* high or higher *than* Trinity steeple." The full and correct statement would be: "The new building is *as* high *as* or higher *than* Trinity steeple." But this seems a stiff and formal phrase, such as might be used in a legal document. Better say: "—*as* high *as* Trinity steeple, or *higher*," "—*or even higher*," "—*if not higher*," or the like.

**asth'ma**, 1 az'mə; 2 áš'ma.

**at, in**. "He is now living *at* Paris." Say, rather: "He is now living *in* Paris." Always *in* a country; either *at* or *in* a city, town, or village; *at*, if the place is regarded as a point; *in*, if it is inclusive. "We arrive *at* Paris"; "He lives *in* London"; "There are three churches *in* this village." In England the use of *in* before towns and cities is more restricted than in the United States; the distinctions observed there between *at* and *in* often seem arbitrary. The sense of *at* is virtually included in *there* and *where*, so that the repetition of *at* is redundant. See **WHERE**.

\* The proper use of prepositions has been explained with many practical illustrations throughout the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY, a feature of constant helpfulness.

**Ath'ens**, 1 aθ'h'enz; 2 āth'ēns, *not* 1 ēth'enz; 2 āth'ēns, *nor* 1 ē'fhnz; 2 ā'thns.

**at length**. The assumption that *at length* means the same as *at last*, and is therefore superfluous, is an error. Both *at length* and *at last* presuppose long waiting; but *at last* views what comes after the waiting as a *finality*; *at length* views it as *intermediate* with reference to action or state that continues, or to results that are yet to follow; as, "I have invited him often, and *at length* he is coming"; "I have invited him often, and *at last* he has come"; *At length* he began to recover"; *At last* he died."

Scarce thus *at length* failed speech recovered sad.

MILTON *P. L.* bk. iv, l. 357.

O, then, *at last* relent.

MILTON *P. L.* bk. iv, l. 79.\*

**aux-il'i-a-ry**, 1 əgz-il'yə-rī; 2 ăġz-ĭl'ya-ry, *or* 1 əgz-il'ī-ē-rī; 2 ăġz-ĭl'ī-ā-ry, *not* 1 ɔx-il'ī-ə-rī; 2 ăx-il'ī-a-ry, *nor* 1 ɔx-il'ūr-i; 2 ăx-ĭl'ēr-y.

**av'e-nue**, 1 av'ə-niū; 2 ăv'e-nū, *not* 1 av'nū; 2 ăv'nōō.

## B

**back**. "He returned *back*." A pleonasm. *Back* is included in *return*. Say simply: "*He returned*," or "*He came back*."

**bad or badly**. "He felt *badly*." Better say: "He felt *bad*." See ADJECTIVE and ADVERB.

**badly**. "That needs to be mended *badly*." No, it needs to be mended *well*, if at all. To say, "It *badly* needs to be mended," is an allowable colloquialism. Better say: "That *greatly* or *exceedingly* needs to be mended."

**bal'ance**. As an accountant's term, the *balance* is that which must be added to the less or subtracted from the greater of two amounts, as receipts and expenses, to make them equal, so as to "*balance*" the account. "The *balance* of one's dinner" and "the *balance* of the evening" should be "the *rest*" or "the *remainder*."

**balm**, 1 bām; 2 bām, *not* 1 bam; 2 bām.

**bay'ou**, 1 bai'ū; 2 bī'ū, *not* 1 bē'yū; 2 bā'yū, *nor* 1 bē-yū'; 2 bā-yū'.

**be back**. "I'll be *back* in a moment." Better say: "I'll *come back*," or "*be here* (or *there*) *again* in a moment." *Be back* is a common, though unwarranted, colloquialism; "I'll *come back*" is legitimate, *back* denoting direction toward the starting-point; but *be*

\* The method of exact location of every quotation, so that any reader may instantly verify it, and compare the words quoted with the context, has been maintained throughout the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY, in its many thousands of quotations.

*back* has no such significance. The approved usage is as above stated, as shown in the following:

Fetch me this herb; and be thou *here again*,  
Ere the leviathan can swim a league.

SHAKESPEARE *Midsummer Night's Dream* act II, sc. 1, l. 17.

**Be-el'ze-bub**, 1 bi-el'zi-bub; 2 be-él'ze-büb, *not* 1 bel'zi-bub; 2 bël'ze-büb.

**Be'li-al**, 1 bi'il-al *or* bl'y'al; 2 bē'li-al *or* bēl'y'al, *not* 1 bi-lai'al; 2 bē-l'i'al.

**"Be that as it will."** Better say: "Be that as it *may*." The latter is the approved form. There is in this case no futurity to be expressed by *will*, and contingency is better expressed by *may*.

**better, had better.** See **HAD RATHER**.

**between each.** "There were ten boats with a space of twenty feet *between each*." The number of objects governed by *between* can never be less than two; in other words, *between* can not be used of a single object, as in the following:

And with a gap of a whole night *between every one*.

DICKENS *Martin Chuzzlewit* ch. 8, p. 152. [E. & L. '96.]

Better say: "—— *between each two*," "—— *between every two*," or "—— *between one and another*."

**bi'cy-cle**, 1 bai'si-kl; 2 bi'cy-el, *not* 1 bai'sai-kl; 2 bi'cŷ-el.

**big.** "He's the *big* man of the town." Better say: "—— the *chief* man", "—— the *leading* man," or "—— the *great* man." *Big* is not the equivalent of *great*, and is in many uses a word of less dignity. A *big* man may be very far from being a *great* man. Washington was mentally and spiritually a *great* man, physically a *large* man; but we do not ordinarily speak of the Father of his Country as a *big* man.

**Bis'marek**, 1 bis'märk; 2 bīs'märk, *not* 1 biz'märk; 2 bīš'märk.

**blame on.** "Don't *blame* that *on* me." Better say: "Don't *blame* me for that."

**blas'phe-mous**, 1 blas'fi-mus; 2 bläs'fe-mūs, *not* 1 blas-fi'mus; 2 blas-fē'mūs.

**blithe**, 1 blaith *or* blaiḥ; 2 blith *or* blith.

**both, a. & pron.** "*Both* applicants were not accepted." Were both applicants rejected? or was one rejected and the other accepted? or was neither applicant accepted or rejected? The confusion in meaning of a negative sentence containing *both* will be best avoided by making the sentence affirmative: "*Both* applicants were rejected," "One of the two applicants was rejected and the other accepted," or the like.

**both alike.** "They are *both* alike." Something jars on a good ear in this phrase. What is it? It is the fact that *both* denotes union, while *alike* denotes separation for comparison. We must think of the two things separately in order to see that they are *alike*; we must think of them together in order to refer to them as *both*. Thus the phrase "*both alike*" strikes on a hidden rock.

Better say: "They are *alike*," or "The two are *alike*."

**breth'ren**, 1 breth'ren; 2 brēth'rēn, *not* 1 breth'er-in; 2 brēth'ēr-in, *nor* 1 bruth'rin; 2 brūth'rin.

**bring**, } Gardener to Judge in the garden: "Will I  
**car'ry**. } bring this plant into the house, sir?" A double  
error. "Will" should be "*shall*" (see **SHALL**), and  
"bring" should be "carry": "Shall I ~~carry~~ it into the  
house?" "If an object is to be moved *from* the place  
we occupy, we say *carry*; if *to* the place we occupy (or  
think of ourselves as occupying), we say **BRING**."\*

**bro'min**, **bro'mine**. The first form is to be preferred.†  
**by**, **bye**. We may write either *by the by* or *by the bye*,  
the last word being a noun. In *by and by*, both the  
first word and the last are adverbs, and the form should  
be *by*.

## C

**Cal'ro**. In Egypt, 1 kai'ro; 2 cē'ro; in Illinois, 1 kē'rō; 2 cā'ro.

**cal'cu-late**. Used in parts of the United States for  
*think* or *suppose*, is a colloquialism.

**cal'dron**, 1 kēl'drēn; 2 cal'dron, *not* 1 kal'drēn; 2 cāl'dron.

**calm**, 1 kām; 2 cām, *not* 1 kam; 2 cām. When one says:  
"There was a great cam," the suggestion is of the *cam*  
used in machinery. The use of the short *a* (a), as in  
*at* (at) in such words as *alms*, *calm*, *palm*, *psalm*, etc.,  
gives the spoken language a disagreeably flat sound,  
and is to be avoided. Give *a* in these words the full  
sound as in *fa'ther* (fā'ther)‡. The most melodious  
languages, as the Italian, make great use of broad,  
open vowels.

**can**, **may**. "Can I come in?" Better say: "May I  
come in?" *Can* refers to possibility, *may* to permis-  
sion.

**ca-price'**, 1 ka-pris'; 2 ca-prīc', *not* 1 kē'pris; 2 cā'prīc'.

**cel'i-ba-cy**, 1 sel'i-ba-si; 2 cēl'i-ba-cy, *not* 1 se-lib'e-si; 2 cē-lib'a-cy.

\* "A messenger *carries* a letter to a correspondent, and  
*brings* an answer. *Take* is often used in this sense in place  
of *carry*; as, *take* that letter to the office. *Carry* often signi-  
fies to *transport* by personal strength, without reference to  
the direction; as, that is more than he can *carry*; yet, even  
so, it would not be admissible to say *carry* it to me, or *carry*  
it here; in such case, we must say *bring*." See **Synonyms**  
under "CARRY" in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD  
DICTIONARY.

† In the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY  
the spelling of many words in chemistry has been simplified.  
This was done in harmony with the practise followed by the  
chemical section of the American Association for the Ad-  
vancement of Science.

‡ An explanation of the *Revised Scientific Alphabet* here  
used will be found in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD  
DICTIONARY, or in any one of its various abridgments. This  
is believed to be the best alphabetic notation ever devised  
for phonetic purposes, greatly simplifying all previous sys-  
tems.



- com'e-ter-y**, 1 sem'r-ter-ı; 2 cēm'e-tēr-y, *not* 1 sem'a-trı  
2 cēm'e-try.
- cen-trif'u-gal**, 1 sen-trif'yu-gal; 2 cēn-trīf'yū-ġal, *not* 1  
sen"tri-fiū'gal; 2 cēn"trī-fū'ġal.
- cer'e-brum**, 1 ser'i-brum; 2 cēr'e-brūm, *not* 1 se-rī'brum;  
2 cē-rē'brūm.
- cere'ment**, 1 sīr'ment *or* mēnt; 2 cēr'ment, *not* 1 ser'y-  
mēnt; 2 cēr'e-ment.
- chasm**, 1 kazm; 2 eāsm, *not* 1 kaz'um; 2 eās'ūm.
- cho'ral**, } "We are going to form a *co'ral* (1 kēr'əl; 2 eō-  
**cor'al**. } ral) society." You probably mean "a *cho'ral*  
(1 kō'ral; 2 eō'ral) society." "We may have *cho'ral* (1  
kō'ral; 2 eō'ral) singing, or a *cor'al* (1 kē'ral; 2 eō'ral)  
necklace.
- Chris'tian**, } Begin each of these words with a  
**Chris'ti-an'i-ty**. } capital; so *Christianize*, *Christ-like*.  
*Christmas*, etc.\*
- civ'il**, 1 siv'il; 2 cīv'il, *not* 1 siv'l; 2 cīv'l.
- clothes**, 1 klō thz; 2 elōthz, *not* 1 klōz; 2 elōz.
- cog-no'men**, 1 keg-nō'men; 2 eōġ-nō'mēn, *not* 1 keg'no-  
men; 2 eōġ'no-mēn.
- col'umn**, 1 kel'um; 2 eōl'ūm, *not* 1 kel'ium; 2 eōl'ūm.
- com'pa-ra-ble**, 1 kem'pā-ra-bl; 2 eōm'pā-ra-bl, *not* 1  
kem-pār'a-bl; 2 eōm-pār'a-bl.
- con-do'lence**, 1 ken-dō'lens; 2 eōn-dō'lēnç, *not* 1 ken'do-  
lens; 2 eōn'do-lēnç.
- con'jure**. Two pronunciations and two corresponding  
meanings, viz. **con'jure**<sup>1</sup>, 1 kun'jær; 2 eōn'jur, to prac-  
tise magic, effect by magic; **con-jure**<sup>2</sup>, 1 kēn-jūr'; 2  
eōn-jūr', to make a solemn appeal to.
- con-tempt'i-bly**. For *contemptuously*; as, "He spoke  
*contemptibly* of them" A speech may be *contemptible*  
in its character, while it is also *contemptuous* toward its  
object.
- con'tu-ma-cy**, 1 kēn'tiu-mə-sı; 2 eōn'tū-ma-çy, *not* 1  
kēn-tū'mə-sı; 2 eōn-tū'ma-çy.
- con'vex**, 1 kēn'veks; 2 eōn'vēks, *not* 1 kēn-veks'; 2 eōn-  
vēks'.
- co're-pond'ent**, } Refer to your *correspondent* with  
**cor're-pond'ent**. } two r's, unless you mean to im-  
ply that he or she is involved in a suit for divorce.
- cor'net**, 1 kēr'net; 2 eōr'nēt, *not* 1 kēr-net'; 2 eōr-nēt'.
- cor'nice**, 1 kēr'nıs; 2 eōr'niç, *not* 1 kēr'nış; 2 eōr'nish.
- corps** (1 kōr; 2 eōr), } Do not speak of the editorial  
**corpse** (1 kērps; 2 eōrps). } *corpse* (1 kērps; 2 eōrps), when  
you mean the staff of editors—the *corps* (1 kōr; 2 eōr).  
A general commands an army *corps* 1 (kōr; 2 eōr), and  
not an army *corpse* (1 kērps; 2 eōrps).
- cov'et-ous**, 1 kuv'et-us; 2 eōv'ēt-ūs, *not* 1 kuv'e-chus; 2  
eōv'ē-chūs.

\* In the vocabulary of the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY only proper names or proper terms derived from them have been printed with initial capital letters.

**cui'sine**, 1 kwī-zīn'; 2 ewī-gīn', *not* 1 kiu'zīn: 2 eū'gīn.  
**cu'li-na-ry**, 1 kiū'li-nē-rī; 2 eū'li-nā-ry, *not* 1 kul'i-nē-rī;  
 2 eūl'i-nā-ry.

## D

**dam'age**. Traveler to hackman in Boston: "What's the *damage*?" "No damage, sir. I have brought you safely, have I not? My *charge* is a dollar-and-a-half." To use "*damage*" for "*charge*," "*cost*," "*expense*," or the like, is a vulgarism.

**Da'nish**, 1 dēn'ish: 2 dān'ish, *not* 1 dan'ish: 2 dān'ish.

**dec'ade**, 1 dek'ād; 2 dēe'ād, *not* 1 dē-kēd'; 2 de-eād'.

**de-ro'rous**. The dictionaries prefer to pronounce *this* word 1 dī-kō'rus; 2 de-eō'rūs, though admitting as an alternative the popular pronunciation 1 dek'o-rus; 2 dēe'o-rūs.

**def'i-cit**, 1 def'i-sit; 2 dēf'i-čit, *not* 1 dē-fis'it; 2 de-fis'it.

**de-mean'**. A popular misuse for *degrade*, *debase*: "How could he *demean* himself by such a marriage?" To *demean* is properly to *conduct*, *behave* (oneself).

**de'pot**. "I am going to the *depot* to take the train" Better say: "I am going to the *station*," etc. *Depot* means "a storehouse," and has no fitness when applied to a place where cars stop for passengers; that is a *station*, or, in other words, a stopping-place.

**des'ig-nate**, 1 des'ig-nēt; 2 dēs'ig-nāt, *not* 1 dez'ig-nēt; 2 dēz'ig-nāt.

**des'pi-ca-ble**, 1 des'pī-kā-bl; 2 dēs'pī-ca-bl, *not* 1 de-spik'ā-bl; 2 dē-spīe'ā-bl.

**des'ul-to-ry**, 1 des'ul-to-rī; 2 dēs'ūl-to-ry, *not* 1 de-sult'o-rī; 2 dē-sūlt'o-ry.

**dew**, 1 diū; 2 dū, **do**, 1 dū; 2 dō, **due**, 1 diū; 2 dū. You may say "Do (1 dū; 2 dō) avoid the *dew* (1 diū; 2 dū)"; "There is much to *do* (1 dū; 2 dō)"; "The payment is *due* (1 diū; 2 dū)."

**dī'a-mond**, *not* 1 dai'mənd; 2 dī'mond, *but* 1 dai'ā-mənd; 2 dī'a-mond.

**dif'fer-ent than**. "This is a very *different* case *than* that." Better say: "This is a very *different* case *from* that." Different denotes distinction or separation (properly indicated by *from*), and not comparison (which would be indicated by *than*): different *from*, better *than*.

**dis-course'**, 1 dis-kōrs'; 2 dīs-eōrs', *not* 1 dis'kōrs; 2 dīs-eōrs.

**dis-in'ter-est-ed**. "I used to like to go to church, but now I'm entirely *disinterested*." *Uninterested* is the word intended. *Disinterested* means *unselfish*.

**dis'pu-ta-ble**, 1 dis'piu-tā-bl; 2 dīs'pū-tā-bl, *not* 1 dis-piu'tā-bl; 2 dīs-pū'tā-bl.

**dis'pu-tant**, 1 dis'piu-tənt; 2 dīs'pū-tant, *not* 1 dis-piu'tənt; 2 dīs-pū'tant.

**don'kies.** "Donkies! Janet, *donkies!*" Thus an American edition of Dickens makes Aunt Trotwood exclaim. The only correct spelling is "donkeys." See PLURALS.

**don't,** a contraction of *do not*, should be used only in the first person singular or in the plural; as, "They *don't* (do not) care," but "He *doesn't* (not *don't*) know any better"; never, "He *don't*," "It *don't*," or the like.

**dram'a,** 1 drā'mæ; 2 drā'ma, *rather than* 1 dram'æ; 2 drām'a.

**dram'a-tist,** 1 dram'æ-tist; 2 drām'a-tīst, *not* 1 drēm'æ-tist; 2 drām'a-tīst.

**due,** 1 diū; 2 dū, *not* 1 dū; 2 dū. See DEW.

**du'ty,** 1 diū'ti; 2 dū'ty, *not* dū'ti; 2 dū'ty. See DEW.

## E

**each.** "*Each of the men were paid a dollar.*" No: "*Each . . . was.*" Omit the dependent words "of the men," and the correct statement is at once seen to be: "*Each (of the men) was paid a dollar.*" Not "*Each of the students have their own room*" but "*Each student has his (or her) own room.*" \*

**ef-fect'.** "He said something *of that effect.*" No: "—something *to that effect,*" i. e., tending to a result or conclusion.

**ef-fect',** to accomplish, to be carefully distinguished from **af-fect',** to influence; as, "The union of all good citizens may *effect* (accomplish) a reform"; "The principles adopted at the outset will *affect* (influence) the character of the reform."

**e-lev'en,** 1 i-lev'n; 2 e-lēv'n, *not* 1 i-lev'en; 2 e-lēv'ēn, *nor* 1 lev'n; 2 lēv'n.

**elm,** 1 elm; 2 ělm, *not* 1 el'am; 2 ěl'em, *nor* (as sometimes heard) 1 al'am; 2 ěl'em.

**el'o-quence,** 1 el'o-kwens; 2 ěl'o-kwěnc, *not* 1 ěl'o-kwunse'; 2 ěl'o-kwūnc.

**else — but.** "It is nothing *else but* pride." An error. The correct form is: "It is nothing *else than* pride."

**em"ploy-ee',** 1 em"plei-i' or em"plei-ē'; 2 ěm"plōy-ē' or ěm"plōy-ā. The word *employee* is now fully Anglicized, and best spelled as an English word and pronounced as English, 1 em"plei-i'; 2 ěm"plōy-ē'. As an English word it is a useful correlative of *employer*. The attempt to treat the word as French leads to absurdities; as, "A strike took place among the female *employés,*" instead of *employées*, the feminine form. The true French pronunciation of *employé* can not be indicated

\* *Each* and *every* require singular verbs. A violation of this rule is a common form of error. . . . Fitzedward Hall (*Modern English*, ch. iv, p. 117) quotes from Bentley, "The words . . . *every one* of which *were* in print before I used them." This should, of course, be, "*every one . . . was.*" "*Each of the men were paid a dollar*"; evidently, "*Each . . . was.*"

by English phonetics, and can scarcely be attained by an English tongue. Better plain, downright English than barbarized French. Compare ENVELOPE.

**end'ways.** Better say *endwise*.

**Eng'lish,** 1 in'glīsh; 2 in'glīsh, *not* 1 en'glīsh; 2 ɛn'glīsh.

**en'vel-ope** (1 en'vī-lōp; 2 ɛn've-lōp), } Do not say ɛn'-

**en-vel'ope** (1 en-vel'op; 2 ɛn-vēl'ōp), } vel-ōp, which is

**en-vel'op** (1 en-vel'ap; 2 ɛn-vēl'op) . } neither English

nor French. The verb *envelop* (1 en-vel'ap; 2 ɛn-vēl'op)

or *envelope* (1 en-vel'op; 2 ɛn-vēl'ōp) has long been

fully Anglicized, and it is best that the noun should be, with one of the three pronunciations given above.

**e'qually as, e'qually as well, e'qually as great,**

etc. Omit the *as*, and say: "That will do *equally*

*well*" (or "*quite as well*"): "This will produce mis-

fortune *equally* great."

**e-qua'tion,** 1 ɪ-kwē'shan; 2 e-kwā'shon, *rather than* 1

ɪ-kwē'zan; 2 e-kwā'zhūn.

**eq'ui-page,** 1 ek'wī-pij; 2 ɛk'wi-pag, *not* 1 e-kwip'ij; 2

ɛ-kwīp'ag.

**es'pi-o-nage,** 1 es'pī-o-nij; 2 ɛs'pi-o-nag, *not* 1 es-pai'o-

nij; 2 ɛs-pī'o-nag.

**es-thet'ic,** } The simpler form *esthetic* is to be pre-

**æs-thet'ic.** } ferred.\*

**Eu"ro-pe'an,** 1 yū"ro-pī'an; 2 yu"ro-pē'an, *not* 1 yū-rō'-

pi-an; 2 yu-rō'pi-an.

**ex'o-dus.** Properly used of an extensive migration from

a country; *not* "My *exodus* was hasty," but "My *depar-*

*ture*," if away from a place or point; "My *exit*," if out

of a place, as a room.

**ex-pect'.** "I expect it is." Better say: "I *think* (*be-*

*lieve* or *suppose*) it is." *Expect* refers to the future,

usually with the implication of interest or desire. One

should *not* say: "I *expect* it is," still less "I *expect* it

*was*." We can *not expect* the present or the past.

Compare, **HOPE.**†

**ex-pect' like'ly, ex-pect' prob'a-bly.** It is not the

expectancy, but the future event, that is *likely* or

*probable*. One may say: "I think it is *likely*," "I

think it (the act, event, or the ~~like~~) *probable*," or "It

seems *likely*" or "*probable*." When another person's

expectancy is matter of conjecture, one may say:

"You *probably expect* to live many years"; i. e. "I

think it *probable* that you *expect*," etc.; "Probably you

*expect*," etc., would be better.

**ex'pli-ca-ble,** 1 eks'pli-kə-bl; 2 ɛks'pli-ca-bl, *not* 1 eks-

plik'ə-bl; 2 ɛks-plie'a-bl.

**ex'qui-site,** 1 eks'kwī-zit; 2 ɛks'kwī-ŝit, *not* 1 eks-kwiz'it;

2 ɛks-kwiŝ'it.

**ex-tem'po-re,** 1 eks-tem'po-rī; 2 ɛks-tēm'po-re, *not* 1 eks-

tem'pōr; 2 ɛks-tēm'pōr.

\* That there is a drift, conservative yet real, toward the simpler forms of spelling, has been recognized throughout the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.



## F

**fa''cade'**, 1 fa''sād'; 2 fā''cād', *not* 1 fa-kēd'; 2 fā-cād'.

**fac'et**, 1 fas'et; 2 fāç'ët, *not* 1 fē'set; 2 fā'çët, *nor* 1 fē'zet; 2 fā'zët.

**fac'ile**, 1 fas'il; 2 fās'il, *not* 1 fē'sil; 2 fā'sil.

**fal'chion**, 1 fēl'chan; 2 fał'chon, *not* 1 fal'shun; 2 fāl'shōn.

**fa-nat'ic**, 1 fa-nat'ik; 2 fa-nāt'ie, *not* 1 fan'a-tik; 2 fān'a-tic.

**fau'cet**, 1 fē'set; 2 fa'çët, *not* 1 fas'et; 2 fāç'ët.

**fa'vor-ite**, 1 fē'var-it; 2 fā'vor-it, *not* 1 fē'var-ait; 2 fā'vor-it.

**Feb'ru-a-ry**, 1 feb'ru-ē-rī; 2 fēb'ru-ā-ry, *not* 1 feb'yu-ē-rī; 2 fēb'yu-ā-ry. (The *r* to be sounded.)

**fem'i-nine**, 1 fem'i-nin; 2 fēm'i-nīn, *not* 1 fem'i-nain; 2 fēm'i-nīn.

**fer'tile**, 1 fūr-tīl; 2 fēr'tīl, *not* 1 fūr'tail; 2 fēr'tīl.

**fi-na'le**, 1 fi-nā'lē; 2 fī-nā'le, *not* 1 fai'nēl; 2 fī'nāl', *nor* 1 fi-nal'r; 2 fī-nāl'i.

**fi-nance'**, 1 fi-nans'; 2 fī-nānç', *not* 1 fai'nəns; 2 fī'nanç.

**fin'an-cier'**, 1 fin'an-sīr'; 2 fīn'ān-cēr', *or* 1 fi-nan'sīr; 2 fī-nān'cēr, *not* 1 fai'nan-sīr'; 2 fī'nān-sēr'.

**first**, } "Sing the *two first* and the *two last* stanzas."

**last**. } Better say: "— the *first two* and the *last two*."

There may be many *twos* (*threes*, etc.), but there can be only one *first* and one *last*.

**first'ly**, "I remark *firstly*." Better say: "I remark *first*." *First*, being itself an adverb, does not need the *-ly* that is frequently added. In an enumeration say *first*, *secondly*, *thirdly*, etc., rather than *firstly*, etc.

**flac'cid**, 1 flak'sid; 2 flāç'cid, *not* 1 flas'sid; 2 flāç'cid.

**flor'id**, 1 fler'id; 2 flōr'id, *not* 1 flō'rid; 2 flō'rid.

**for'mi-da-ble** 1 fēr'mi-də-bl; 2 fōr'mi-da-bl, *not* 1 fer-mid'a-bl; 2 fōr-mīd'a-bl.

**foun'tain**, 1 faun'tin; 2 foun'tin, *not* 1 faun'tn; 2 foun'tn.

**fron'tis-piece'** 1 fren'tis-pīs"; 2 frōn'tis-pēç", *not* 1 frun'tis-pīs; 2 frūn'tis-pēç.

**fuch'sia**, 1 fiū'shə; 2 fū'sha, *or* 1 fuks'ī-ə; 2 fyes'i-a, *not* 1 fiū'zə; 2 fū'zha.

**fu'ture**. "His *future* career was prosperous to the last."

Better say: "His *after*, *later*, or *subsequent* career."

*Future* can not properly be used of the past. As well say: "He went to-morrow," after to-morrow has become yesterday.

## G

**gath'er**, 1 gath'ər; 2 gāth'ər, *not* 1 geth'ər; 2 gēth'ər.

**gen'e-al'o-gy**, min'er-al'o-gy. Too often mispronounced as if spelled *geneology*, *minerology*.

**gen'er-al-ly**, 1 jen'ər-al-ī; 2 gēn'er-al-y, *not* 1 jen'rul-ī; 2 gēn'rul-y.

**gen'u-ine**, 1 jen'yu-in; 2 gēn'yū-in, *not* 1 jen'yu-ain; 2 gēn'yū-in.

- ge-og'ra-phy**, 1 jī-eg'rā-fī; 2 ġe-ōġ'ra-fy, *not* 1 jəg'rā-fī; 2 ġōġ'ra-fy.
- giaour**, 1 jaur; 2 ġour, *not* 1 gaur; 2 ġour.
- gib'bous**, 1 gib'us; 2 ġīb'ūs, *not* 1 jīb'us; 2 ġīb'ūs.
- gen'do-la**, 1 gen'do-lā; 2 ġön'do-la, *not* 1 gen-dō'lā; 2 ġön-dō'la.
- got**. "Louise!" called the mother to the maid, "why do you cross that child? Let him have what he wants." Then, upon a more piercing scream, "Louise, do you hear me? Let him have it, I say!" "It" proved to be a live wasp. "He's *got* it ma'am," answered with perfect propriety the sorely tried Louise. *Got* is properly used in the sense of *acquired*, *procured*, and the like, but improperly used to express mere possession. When one has been seeking to *get* something, we properly say: "He has *got* it." The dog has *got* the rabbit he has been chasing; he *has* ears and tail which he has had no part in *getting*.
- gov'ern-ment**, 1 guv'ern-ment *or* -mənt; 2 ġöv'ern-měnt, *not* 1 guv'ər-munt; 2 ġöv'er-münt.
- grad'u-ate**, *v.* Popularly used as signifying "to receive a degree at the end of a course of study; become a graduate." The institution *graduates* the candidate (*i. e.*, admits him to a degree, or marks him with a degree) at the end of a course of instruction; in strict usage, therefore, the man is *graduated*; objection is often made to "He *graduated*," but this double meaning (passive and middle) is frequent, and in this word well established. "He *was graduated*" will still be preferred by many, while others deem that formal and stilted, and prefer to say: "He *graduated*."
- griev'ous**, 1 grīv'us; 2 grēv'ūs, *not* 1 grīv'i-us; 2 grēv'i-ūs, *nor* 1 grīv'yus; 2 grēv'yūs.
- gri-mace'**, 1 grī-mēs'; 2 gri-māç', *not* 1 grim'ēs; 2 grīm'-āç.
- grow**. In the sense of *become*, objected to by some critics, especially in what they deem the self-contradictory phrases to *grow small*, is good idiomatic English. Fitzedward Hall (*False Philology*, p. 82) quotes Dr. Johnson as using "*grow fewer*," "*grew able*," "*grow less*," etc., Steele and Gray as using "*grow less*," and Macaulay as using "*grow smaller*."
- guild**. Pronounced 1 gild; 2 ġild, *not* 1 gaild; 2 ġild. The older spelling *gild* is now revived and by many preferred.
- gy'ro-scope**, 1 jai'ro-skōp; 2 ġy'ro-seōp, *not* 1 gai'ro-skōp; 2 ġy'ro-seōp.

## II

**had have**. Improperly used in such expressions as "Had I have known it." *Had*, used elliptically for *if I had*, itself carries the contingency back into the past, and there is no need of an added *have* to do the same

thing; yet we hear persons say: "*Had I have known it,*" or "*If I had have known it.*" "*Had I known this,*" "*Had he done that,*" are conditional clauses, each complete in itself as expressing past possibility.

**had** (or **hadn't**) **ought**. "*He hadn't ought to have done it.*" Better say: "*He ought not to have done it.*" *Ought* differs from most English verbs in taking no auxiliaries. "*Had ought,*" "*hadn't ought,*" "*don't ought,*" etc., are monstrosities. The severe simplicity of duty is stated by the simple verb *ought* or *ought not*.  
**had rath'er, had bet'ter**. These forms of expression have been disputed by certain grammatical critics from the days of Samuel Johnson, the objectors insisting upon the substitution of *would* or *should*, as the case may demand, for *had*; but *had rather* and *had better* are thoroughly established English idioms having the almost universal popular and literary sanction of centuries. "*I would rather not go*" is undoubtedly correct when the purpose is to emphasize the element of choice or will in the matter; but in all ordinary cases "*I had rather not go*" has the merit of being idiomatic and easily and universally understood.

*I had rather* be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. Ps. lxxxiv, 10.

If for "*You had better stay at home,*" we substitute "*You should better stay at home,*" an entirely different meaning is expressed, the idea of expediency giving place to that of obligation.\*

**har'ass**, 1 har'əs; 2 hār'as, *not* 1 hē-ras'; 2 hā-rās'.

**Ha-wai'ian**, 1 ha-wai'yən; 2 hā-wi'yan, *not* 1 ha-wē'yən; 2 hā-wā'yan.

**hearth**, 1 hārth; 2 hārth, *not* 1 hūrth; 2 hērth.

**heath'er**, 1 heth-ər; 2 hēth'er, *not* 1 heth'ər; 2 hēth'er.

**heav'en**, 1 hev'n; 2 hēv'n, *not* 1 hev'en; 1 hēv'en.

**height**, 1 hait; 2 hit, *not* 1 haitth; 2 hitth.

**Hel'ne**, 1 hai'nə; 2 hī'ne, *not* 1 hain; 2 hln.

**hel'nous**, 1 hē'nus; 2 hē'nūs, *not* 1 hī'nus; 2 hē'nūs, *nor* 1 hēn'yus; 2 hēn'yūs.

**helm**, 1 helm; 2 hēlm, *not* 1 hel'um; 2 hēl'ūm.

**help**. "*I will use no more than I can help.*" Better say: "*— no more than is necessary,*" "*— no more than I must,*" or the like.†

\* "*Would rather* may always be substituted for *had rather*. *Might rather* would not have the same meaning. *Would* and *should* do not go well with *better*. In one instance *can* is admissible. '*I can better afford,*' because *can* is especially associated with *afford*. We may say *might better*, but it has neither the sanction, the idiomatic force, nor the precise meaning of *had better*." SAMUEL RAMSEY *Eng. Lang. and Gram.* pt. II, ch. 6, p. 413.

† "'No more than I can help' is a favorite colloquialism that defies analysis. *Help*, being used in the sense of *avoid* or *prevent*, requires a negative after the comparative with *than*, so that the phrase would regularly be: '*No more than I can not help,*' which is harsh, and to many ridiculous. *Better* avoid the expression." Consult *Faulty Diction* as presented in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

**Her-cu'le-an**, 1 hēr-kiū'li-ən; 2 her-eū'le-an, *not* 1 hūr'kiu-lī'ən; 2 hēr'cu-lē'an.

**her'o-ine**, 1 her'o-in; 2 hēr'o-in, *not* 1 hī'rō-in; 2 hē'rō-in, *nor* 1 hī'ro-ain; 2 hē'ro-in.

**her'o-ism**, 1 her'o-izm; 2 hēr'o-īsm, *not* 1 hī'ro-izm; 2 hē'ro-īsm.

**his'to-ry**, 1 his'to-rī; 2 hīs'to-ry, *not* 1 his'trī; 2 hīs'try.

**hoist**, 1 heist; 2 hōist, *not* 1 haist; 2 hīst.

**hom'age**, 1 hēm'ij; 2 hōm'ag, *rather than* 1 em'ij 2 ōm'ag.

**hope**. "I *hope* he arrived in time." Better say: "I *trust* he arrived in time." *Hope* refers to the future; "What a man seeth, why doth he yet *hope* for?" (Rom. viii, 24.)\*

**hor'o-scope**, 1 her'o-skōp; 2 hōr'o-seōp, *not* 1 hō'ro-skōp; 2 hō'ro-seōp.

**hos'pi-tal**. Say *hos'pi-tal* (1 hēs'pī-təl; 2 hōs'pī-tal), never *ho-spit'ā*, (1 hē-spit'əl; 2 hō-spīt'āl). The suggestion of *spitting* is as uncalled for as it is undesirable. The word *hospital* is from the Latin *hospitalis*, of or pertaining to a guest, from *hospes*, a guest, and is too fine a word to spoil. For the same reason, do not say *ho-spit'a-ble* (1 hē-spit'ə-bl; 2 hō-spīt'a-bl), but *hos'pi-ta-ble* (hēs'pī-tə-bl; 2 hōs'pī-ta-bl).

**hos'tile**, 1 hēs'til; 2 hōs'til, *not* 1 hēs'tail; 2 hōs'tīl.

**how-ev'er**. "*However* did you come here?" Better say: "*How* did you *ever* come here?" *However* has proper and elegant use as an adverb; as, "*However* wise one may be, there are limits to his knowledge." But its use for *how* and *ever* should be avoided as a vulgarism. *However* is also in approved use as a conjunction, being a milder synonym for *nevertheless* or *notwithstanding*; as, "I believed the statement accurate. I find, *however*, that it contained some errors."

See *Synonyms* under "NOTWITHSTANDING," in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

**hun'dred**, 1 hun'dred; 2 hūn'drēd, *not* 1 hun'derd; 2 hūn'dērd.

## I

**i-de'a**, 1 ai-dī'ə; 2 ī-dē'a, *not* 1 ai'dī-ə; 2 ī'de-a, *nor* 1 ai-dīr'; 2 ī-dēr'.

**i-de'al**, 1 ai-dī'əl; 2 ī-dē'al, *not* 1 ai-dīl'; 2 ī-dēl'.

**ill'y**, *adv.* The *-ly* is superfluous, since *ill* is itself an adverb as well as an adjective; as, "He behaved *ill*" (*not illy*).

**im-bro'glio**, 1 im-brō-lyo; 2 īm-brō'lyo, *not* 1 im-brōg'li-o, 2 īm-brōg'li-o.

**in.** See *AT*.

\* "*Hope* is made up of expectation and desire; we may *desire* what we do not *expect*; we may *expect* what we do not *desire*; we *hope* for what we both *desire* and *expect*." *Synonyms* under "HOPE" in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.



**in-com'pa-ra-ble**, 1 in-kəm'pə-rə-bl; 2 ɪn-əʊm'pə-rə-bl, *not* 1 in'kəm-pār'ə-bl; 2 ɪn'eʊm-pār'a-bl.

**in-ex'pli-ca-ble**, 1 in-eks'pli-kə-bl; 2 ɪn-ɛks'plɪ-ea-bl, *not* 1 in-eks-plik'ə-bl; 2 ɪn-ɛks-plɪe'a-bl.

**in, in'to**. "He fell *in* the pond." *No*: "He fell *into* the pond." *In* denotes position, state, etc.; *into*, tendency, direction, destination, etc.; as, "I throw the stone *into* the water, and it lies *in* the water."

**in our midst**. A linguistic monstrosity not recognized by any accepted authority, and not—as many persons suppose—found in the Bible. The familiar text, commonly misquoted, reads: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I *in the midst of them*" (Matt. xviii, 20). If the form of expression is changed, better say: "*Among* them, *among* us," etc.

**in-quir'y**, 1 in-kwair'ɪ; 2 ɪn-kwɪr'y, *not* 1 in'kwɪ-rɪ; 2 ɪn'-kwi-ry.

**in'ter-est-ed**, 1 in'tər-est-ed; 2 ɪn'tər-ɛst-əd, *not* 1 in'tər-est'ed; 2 in-ter-ɛst'əd.

**in'ter-est-ing**, 1 in'tər-est-ɪŋ; 2 ɪn'tər-ɛst-ɪŋ, *not* 1 in'tər-est'ɪŋ; 2 ɪn'tər-ɛst'ɪŋ.

**in'ter-loc'u-tor**, 1 in'tər-lək'yʊ-tər [or -tər]; 2 ɪn'tər-lœ'yʊ-tor, *not* 1 in'tər-lo-kyū'tər; 2 ɪn'tər-lo-eyū'tor.

**in-trigue'**, 1 in-trɪg'; 2 ɪn-trɪġ', *not* 1 in'trɪg; 2 ɪn'trɪġ.

**in'ven-to'ry**, 1 in'ven-tō'rɪ; 2 ɪn'ven-tō'ry, *not* 1 in-ven'to-rɪ; 2 ɪn-věn'to-ry.

**ir're-gard'less**. A nondescript word. Say *regardless* or *irrespective*. do not try to blend the two.

**ir-rep'a-ra-ble**, 1 i-rep'ə-rə-bl; 2 ɪ-rɛp'a-ra-bl, *not* 1 ir'rə-pār'ə-bl; 2 ɪr'ra-pār'a-bl.

**I-tal'ian**, 1 i-tal'yən; 2 i-tāl'yan, *not* 1 ai-tal'yən; 2 i-tāl'-yan.

**I-tal'ic**, 1 i-tal'ɪk; 2 i-tāl'ie, *not* 1 ai-tal'ɪk; 2 i-tāl'ie.

**i'vo-ry**, 1 ai'vo-rɪ; 2 ɪ'vo-ry, *not* 1 ai'vri; 2 ɪ'vry.

## J

**joc'und**, 1 jek'und; 2 jœc'ünd, *not* 1 jō'kund; 2 jō'e'ınd.

**just**, 1 jʊst; 2 jüst, *not* 1 jest; 2 jëst.

## K

**kindly**. "He spoke *kindly*"; "He spoke in a *kind'y* tone." Either is correct, for *kindly* is both adjective and adverb. Compare **SOFTLY**.

O blessings on his *kindly* heart!

TENNYSON *The May Queen* concl. st. 4.

**kind of**. "I felt *kind of* weak." Better say: "I felt *somewhat* weak," "*rather* weak," or the like. *Kind of* is not properly an adverbial phrase. Its corruption *kinder* (as *kinder* weak, *kinder* poor, etc.) is simply a low vulgarism. But one may say: "I felt a *kind of* weakness," in which case the noun and the preposition have their proper meaning.

**kind of a (an).** Omit the article. Not "What *kind of a* man is he?" but "What *kind of* man?" Not "It is a *kind of an* animal," but "a *kind of* animal."

**kitch'en,** 1 kich'en; 2 kich'en *not* 1 kich'n; 2 kich'n.

**Kra"ka-tau',** 1 krā"kā-tau'; 2 krā"kā-tou', is the approved form of the name of the great Malayan volcano. A recognized variant form is **Kra"ka-to'a,** 1 krā"kā-tō'a; 2 krā"kā-tō'a.\*

## L

**la'bel,** 1 lē'bel; 2 lā'bēl, *not* 1 lē'bl; 2 lā'bl.

**lam'en-ta-ble,** 1 lam'en-ta-bl; 2 lām'ēn-ta-bl, *not* 1 lam-en'ta-bl; 2 la-mēn'ta-bl.

**La-oc'o-on,** 1 lē-ek'o-en; 2 lā-ōe'o-ōn, *not* 1 lē'o-kūn'; 2 lā'o-cōon'.

**last,** } "Have you read my *last* book?" was the type-  
**latest.** } written reply of a celebrated author to a young lady who asked for his autograph. Her reply was prompt and brief: "I sincerely hope so." Her keen wit won the coveted autograph. *Latest* reaches up to the present, *last* to the end of time. Hence we say: "The *latest* news"; "the *latest* word from our correspondent"; "the *last* words of the dying man."

**last two.** See **FIRST.**

**Lat'in,** 1 lat'in; 2 lāt'in, *not* 1 lat'n; 2 lāt'n.

**lay,** } "I will *lay* down and rest." No: "I will *lie* down  
**lie.** } and rest." But one may say: "I will *lay* my head down on the pillow, and rest." The identity in form of the present tense of *lay*, *vt.*, with the imperfect tense of *lie*, *vi.*, has led to the frequent confounding of the two. The principal parts of the two verbs are:

<i>Present.</i>	<i>Imperfect.</i>	<i>Past Participle.</i>
lay, <i>vt.</i>	laid	laid
lie, <i>vi.</i>	lay	lain

It should be noted that *lay* (present tense), being transitive, is always followed by an object; *lie*, being intransitive, never has an object. *Lay*, in "I *lay* upon thee no other burden," is the present tense of *lay*, *vt.*, having as its object *burden*; in "I *lay* under the sycamore-tree in the cool shade," *lay* is the imperfect tense of *lie*, *vi.*, having no object. *Lay* (imperfect of *lie*) never takes an object; *laid* (imperfect of *lay*) always takes an object. "The soldier *laid* aside his knapsack and *lay* down." *Laid* and *lain* are similarly distinguished. "The hen has *laid* an egg"; "The egg has *lain* (too long) in the nest."

**learn,** } "If I set out to *learn* a man the river, I'll  
**teach.** } *learn* him," said Mark Twain's Mississippi pilot.

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\* The decisions of the United States Geographic Board have been followed in the spelling of such names in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY, the Committee of that Board kindly consenting to pass upon all words that might from time to time be submitted to them.

He could not be expected to know that he should have said *teach*. The instructor *teaches*, the pupils *learn*.  
**learned**. As imperfect and past participle of *learn*, pronounced 1 lūrnd; 2 lērnd; as, "He has *learned* his lesson"; as participial adjective, pronounced 1 lūr'n'ed; 2 lērn'ēd; as, "A *learn'ed* (erudite) man."

One not learn'ed, save in gracious household ways.

TENNYSON *Princess* can. 7, st. 14.

**leg'ate**, 1 leg'it; 2 lēg'at, *not* 1 li'gēt; 2 lē'gāt.

**length'ways**. Better say: *lengthwise*.

**li'chen**, 1 lai'ken; 2 li'e'ēn, *rather than* 1 lich'en; 2 lich'ēn.

**li'o'-rice**, 1 lik'o'-ris; 2 lē'o'-rīq, *not* 1 lik'er-īsh; 2 lē'er-īsh.

**lie**. See LAY.

**like**. "She thinks *like* I do." Better say: "— *as* I do." *Not* "Do *like* I do," but "Do *as* I do."

**lit'tler**, } Colloquialisms. Better say *less*, *least*, which  
**lit'tlest**. } are the approved comparative and superlative  
of *little*.

**lives**. "I'd just as *lives* as not." *No*: say: "I'd just as *lie*f as not." *Lives* in such use is a corruption.

**long'-lived**, 1 lēŋ'-laivd; 2 lōng'-līvd, *not* 1 lēŋ'-līvd; 2 lōng'-līvd.

**love, like**. We *love* that which ministers to our affections; we *like* what ministers to appetite, taste, fancy, etc. A man *loves* his wife and children; he *likes* roast beef, etc.; he *likes* some good-natured acquaintance whom he could not be said to *love*.

**ly-ce'um**, 1 lai-si'um; 2 lī-qē'ūm, *not* 1 lai'si-um; 2 lī'-qē-ūm.

## M

**main'te-nance**, 1 mēn'ti-nəns; 2 mān'te-nanq, *not* 1 mēn-tēn'əns; 2 mān-tēn'anq.

**ma'tron**, 1 mē'trən; 2 mā'tron, *not* 1 mat'rən; 2 māt'ron.

**mau"so-le'um**, 1 mē"so-lī'um; 2 mā"so-lē'ūm, *not* 1 mē-sō'lī-um; 2 mā-sō'lē-ūm.

**mean, means**. "No other *means* are to be found." Better say: "No other *means* is to be found." *Means* may be either singular or plural, according as we think of one thing or of more than one as intervening between purpose and execution. We may say: "Various *means* were tried," or "This is a *means* to an end." In the example at the opening of the paragraph, we are supposed to have exhausted all means but one; hence, "No other *means* is left." Do not say: "This will be a *mean* (but rather a *means*) to the end." Compare

NEWS.

**med'i-cine**, 1 med'i-sin; 2 mēd'i-çīn, *or* (Brit.) 1 med'-sin; 2 mēd'çīn.

**mem'o-ry**, 1 mem'o-rī; 2 mēm'o-ry, *not* 1 mem'rī; 2 mēm'ry.

**mer'cles**. See PLURALS.

**mer'ry** (1 mer'i; 2 mēr'y), } A common error is to pro-  
**mar'ry** (1 mar'i; 2 mār,y), } nounce *merry* like *marry*,  
**Ma'ry** (1 mē'rī; 2 mār'y). } whereas it should have the  
 clear short *e*, as in *met*. On the other hand, *Mary* (1  
 mē'rī; 2 mār'y) should have the long *a* (ē) as in *fate*.  
*"Mary* (1 mē'rī; 2 mār'y) is a *merry* (1 mer'i; 2 mēr'y)  
*girl*, but she may not *marry* (1 mar'i; 2 mār'y)."

**mes'mer-ize**, 1 mez'mər-aiz; 2 mēs'mer-iz, not 1 mes'-  
 mər-aiz; 2 mēs'mer-iz.

**min'a-ret**, 1 min'ə-ret; 2 mīn'a-rēt, not 1 min'ə-ret'; 2  
 mīn'a-rēt'.

**mis'chie-vous**, 1 mis'chi-vus; 2 mīs'chi-vūs, not 1 mis-  
 chī'vus; 2 mīs-chē'vūs.

**mon'grel**, 1 mən'grel; 2 mōn'grēl, not 1 mən'grel; 2 mōn'-  
 grēl.

**mon'keys**. See PLURALS.

**mo-rale'**, 1 mo-rāl'; 2 mo-rāl', not 1 mer'al; 2 mōr'al, nor  
 1 mo-rēl'; 2 mo-rāl'.

## N

**na-ive'**, 1 nā-iv'; 2 nā-iv', not 1 nēv; 2 nāv.

**na'tion-al**, 1 nāsh'ən-al; 2 nāsh'on-al, not 1 nē'shən-al;  
 2 nā'shən-al.

**na'tion-al'i-ty**, 1 nāsh'ən-al'i-tī; 2 nāsh'on-āl'i-ty.

**nei'ther**. "Neither he nor his wife *were* there." No:  
 "— *was* there." *Neither*, like *either*, when it intro-  
 duces two or more nominatives in the singular number,  
 takes a verb in the singular. "*Either* John, James, or  
 Henry *was* there"; "*Neither* Sweden, Spain, nor Italy  
*is* a republic." See PLURALS. Compare OR.

**sur-al'gi-a**, 1 niu-ral'ji-a; 2 nū-rāl'gi-a, not 1 niu-ral'ji;  
 2 nū-rāl'gi.

**neu-rol'o-gy**. "He suffers with *neurology*." But *neu-  
 rology* is "the science of the nervous system." Few  
 people suffer with that. Do not substitute *neurology*,  
 because there is no such word. The correct statement  
 is: "He suffers with *neuralgia*," i. e., with a painful  
 disease of the nerves.

**new**, 1 niū; 2 nū, not 1 nū; 2 nōō.

**new beginner**. "I'm a *new beginner*." Better say,  
 simply: "I'm a *beginner*." The *new* is included in  
*beginner*, and the addition of the adjective is tautologi-  
 cal. The finest utterance is in fewest words.

**news**. "The latest *news* ARE good." Better say:  
 "The latest *news* is good." *News*, while plural in form,  
 is singular in construction. Two friends at one time  
 having a dispute on this matter, agreed to refer it to  
 Horace Greeley. As he was out of the city, the ques-  
 tion was telegraphed to him, "Are there any *news*?"  
 Greeley promptly flashed back the answer: "Not  
 a *nēw*."

**ni'ce-ty**, 1 nai'si-tī; 2 nī'ce-ty, not 1 nais'tī; 2 nīc'ty.

For Keys to Symbols used, see page 2.

**non"pa-reil'**, 1 nen"pə-rēl'; 2 nōn"pa-rēl', *not* 1 nen"pə-ril'; 2 nōn"pa-rēl'.

**nos'trum**, 1 nes'trum; 2 nōs'trūm, *not* 1 nō'strum; 2 nō'strūm.

**no'ta-ble**, } Do not say: "a *no'ta-ble* (1 nō'tə-bl; 2 nō'ta-  
**not'a-ble**. } bl) housewife," but "a *not'a-ble* (1 net'ə-bl; 2 nōt'a-bl) housewife. **No'ta-ble** means "worthy of note"; **not'a-ble** means "clever, prudent."

**no use**. "It was *no use* to argue with him." Say, rather: "It was *of no use*."

**nui'sance**, 1 niū'səns; 2 nū'sanç, *not* 1 nū'səns; 2 nōō'-sanç.

**numbers**. "*Those* hundred dollars *are* here." Better say: "*That* hundred dollars *is* here," unless you have been counting the coins, and are thinking of them as separate units. The rule is that "a multiple, sum, or collection of units is treated as a singular." Hence: "Three times three *is* nine";  $5 \times 4 = (\text{equals}) 20$ .

## O

**oaths**, 1 ōthz; 2 ōths, *not* 1 ōths; 2 ōths.

**ob'el-isk**, 1 eb'ī-lisk; 2 ōb'e-lisk, *not* 1 ō'bīl-isk; 2 ō'bel-isk.

**o-bes'i-ty**, 1 o-bes'ī-tī; 2 o-bēs'ī-ty, *not* 1 o-bī'sī-tī; 2 o-bē'sī-ty.

**ob-scen'i-ty**, 1 eb-sen'ī-tī; 2 ōb-sēn'ī-ty, *not* 1 eb-sīn'ī-tī; 2 ōb-sēn'ī-ty.

**ob'so-lete**, 1 eb'so-līt; 2 ōb'so-lēt, *not* 1 eb-so-līt'; 2 ōb-so-lēt.

**oc-cult'**, 1 ɔ-kult'; 2 ɔ-cūlt', *not* 1 ek'ult; 2 oe'ūlt.

**of**, } Two prepositions often oddly confounded, espe-  
**off**. } cially by persons of foreign extraction. *Of* properly denotes source; as, "I bought the horse *of* the farmer." *Off* denotes removal, commonly from the outside; as, "To take the crop *off* the land"; "To cut the hair *off* the head." "Shall I cut a slice *off* the ham?" is correct; "Shall I get a steak *off* the butcher?" is ludicrous. Wherever *from* could be substituted, use *of* and not *off*.

**of all others**. "This measure *of all others* ought to have been avoided." Better say: "This measure *beyond all others*," or "This, *of all* measures, ought to have been avoided." The superlative always *includes* the object compared among the objects with which it is compared, while the comparative *excludes* the object compared from among the objects with which it is compared. Thus we say: "The best *of all*," or "Better *than all others*. Compare ANY.

**off of**. "Cut a yard *off of* the cloth." Better say: "Cut a yard *off* the cloth." In *off of* the *of* is redundant, and hence not in approved use.

**oft'en**, 1 ɔf'n; 2 ɔf'n, *not* 1 ɔf'tən; 2 ɔf'ten. The *t* and *e* are silent.



**o'le-o-mar'ga-rine**, 1 ō'lī-o-mār'gə-rin; 2 ō'le-o-mār'-gə-rin, *rather than* 1 ō'lī-o-mār'jə-rin; 2 ō'le-om-ār'gə-rin.

**one**. "Not *one* of our friends *were* present." Say: "— *was* present." Omit the dependent words "of our friends," and it is at once seen that we must say: "Not *one* . . . *was* present." Compare QUANTITY. We may say: "*None* of our friends *were* present," since *none* can be used in the plural sense.

*None* linger now upon the plain,  
Save those who ne'er shall fight again.

SCOTT *Lady of the Lake* can. 6, st. 18.

**on'er-ous**, len'ər-us; 2 ōn'er-ūs, *not* 1 ō'ner-us; 2 ō'ner-ūs.  
**op-po'nent**, 1 e-pō'nent; 2 ō-pō'nent, *not* 1 ep'o-nent; 2 ōp'o-nent.

**or**. "Matters that he *or* she *are* allowed to speak of." Say, rather: "— he *or* she *is* allowed." *Or* separates—and unites. Two singular nouns connected by *and* take a plural verb; two singular nouns connected by *or* take a singular verb, because each is a separate subject. See AND.

**or'chid**, 1 ər'kɪd; 2 ōr'eid, *not* 1 ər'chɪd; 2 ōr'chid.

**or'de-al**, 1 ər'di-al; 2 ōr'de-al, *not* 1 ər-di'al; 2 ōr-dē'al, *nor* 1 ər-dil'; 2 ōr-dēl'.

**O-ri'on**, 1 o-rai'en; 2 o-rī'on, *not* 1 ō'ri-on; 2 ō'rī-on.

**our**. In "*our house*" the sound of *ou* in *our* is the same as that of the *ou* in *house*. Do not say *ār haus*, as if written *are house*, but give full diphthongal sound in both words, *aur haus*. On the other hand, avoid opening the diphthong with the sound of *a* in *at*, as if spelled *aour haous*, which gives an objectionable nasal twang.

**oust**, 1 aʊst; 2 oust, *not* 1 ūst; 2 ōōst.

## P

**pa-py'rus**, 1 pə-pai'rus; 2 pa-pŷ'rūs, *not* 1 pap'i-ru; 2 pāp'y-rūs.

**par'a-dox**. "The statement is a seeming *paradox*." Say simply: "— is a *paradox*." A *paradox* is something that seems at first sight absurd or false; hence the expression "*a seeming paradox*" is pleonastic; it is better to say, "*a paradoxical statement*," or simply, "*a paradox*."

**par'ent**, 1 pār'ent; 2 pār'ent, *not* 1 pē'rent; 2 pā'rēnt.

**ped'a-gogue**. A singular variety of pronunciations—resulting in peculiar liability to mispronunciation—is noticeable in the derivatives of this word, thus **ped'a-gogue**, 1 ped'ə-gog; 2 pēd'a-gōg; **ped'a-gog'ic**, 1 ped'ə-gog'ik; 2 pēd'a-gōg'ic; **ped'a-gog-ism**, 1 ped'ə-gog-izm; 2 pēd'a-gōg-izm; **ped'a-go'gy**, 1 ped'ə-gō'ji; 2 pēd'a-gō'gy.

**pen'cil**, 1 pen'sɪl; 2 pēn'čil, *not* 1 pen'sɪl; 2 pēn'çl.

**pe'o-ny**, 1 pī'o-ni; 2 pē'o-ny, *not* 1 pe-ō'ni; 2 pī-ō'ny, *nor* 1 pai'ni; 2 pī'ny.

**per-mit' of.** "No law to *permit* of the sale of liquor on Sunday will be passed." The correct expression would be: "No law to *permit* the sale of liquor on Sunday." The *of* is needless and unwarranted.

**per-sist',** 1 pər-sist'; 2 per-sist', not 1 pər-zist'; 2 per-gist.

**pill'ar** (1 pil'ər; pīl'ar), } Never to be confused. "He

**pill'ow** (1 pil'o; 2 pīl'o). } laid his head on a *pillar* (1 pil'ər; 2 pīl'ar)" would indicate that he had a stony resting-place. Pronounce *pillow* with clear final o. He laid his *pillow* (1 pil'o; 2 pīl'o) at the foot of a *pillar* (1 pil'ər; 2 pīl'ar), and went to sleep."

**place.** Noun used as adverb, "Are you going any *place*?" Say rather, "anywhere." "Where have you been?" "No *place*." Say, "*nowhere*." Some even say, "go different *places*" instead of "go to different *places*" which latter is the correct form.

**plurals—nouns.** When two nouns are united to form a compound, the first is never pluralized. We say *footstool*, not *feetstool*; *toothache*, not *teethache*; *woman-hater*, not *women-hater*. When a noun follows a numeral in a compound word, the noun is not pluralized; as, a *ten-foot* (not *ten-feet*) pole; a *two-mile* (not *two-miles*) race. A compound word generally forms its plural by adding *s* at the end of the whole word, as *handfuls*. See SPOONFUL. Nouns ending in *y* preceded by a vowel form the plural by adding *s*: as *donkey*, *donkeys*; *chimney*, *chimneys*; *monkey*, *monkeys*, etc. Where the *y* is preceded by a consonant, the *y* is changed into *ie*, and *s* added to this; as *mercy*, *mercies*; *pony*, *ponies*; *supply*, *supplies*.\*

**plurals—verbs.** "The condition of things *were* unfortunate." No: "The condition of things *was* unfortunate." The verb must agree with its *real* subject, which may not be the nearest noun. "Things" is in the objective case, governed by *of*; for a nominative we must go back to *condition*: "The *condition* . . . *was*." Compare AND; OR.

**po'em,** 1 pō'em; 2 pō'ēm, never 1 pōm; 2 pōm.

**poign'ant.** Pronounced without the *g*, 1 peīn'ant; 2 pōin'ant. So its derivatives, *poignancy* (1 peīn'an-si; 2 pōin'an-gy), and *poignantly* (1 peīn'ant-li; 2 pōin'ant-ly).

**Pom-pe'ii,** 1 pem-pē'yī; 2 pōm-pe'yī, not 1 pem'pī-ai; 2 pōm'pē-i, nor 1 pem-pī'ai; 2 pom-pē'ī.

**po'nies.** See PLURALS.

**post, post'ed.** "He is well informed" is better than "He is *posted*."

**po-ta'to,** 1 po-tē'to; 2 po-tā'to, not 1 po-tē'tə; 2 pe-tā'ta, nor 1 per-tē'ter; 2 pēr'tā'tēr.

**prac'ti-cal.** "A *practical* plumber." Better say: "An *experienced* plumber." *Practical* is properly the con-

\* For a full explanation of the correct usage of the singular or plural, either of nouns or verbs, see under PLURAL in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

verse of *theoretical*. Thus a *practical* politician is contrasted with a theorist. But what is a *theoretical* plumber, or a *theoretical* barber? Since every workman must be "*practical*," if he really works, some word like "*skilled*," "*trained*," or "*experienced*" is a better descriptive term.

**pre-ce'dence**, 1 pri-si'dens; 2 pre-çẽ'dẽng, *not* 1 pres'i-dens; 2 præ'e-dẽng.

**pre-ce'dent** (adjective), 1 pri-si'dent; 2 pre-çẽ'dẽnt, *not* 1 pres'i-dent; 2 præ'e-dẽnt.

**prec'e-dent** (noun), 1 pres'i-dent; 2 præ'e-dẽnt.

**pre-dic'a-ment**, 1 pre-dik'a-ment; 2 pre-dĩe'a-ment, *not* 1 pær-dik'a-ment; 2 per-die'a-ment.

**pref'er-a-ble**, 1 pref'ær-a-bl; 2 præ'fær-a-bl, *not* 1 præ'fũr'a-bl; 2 pre-fẽr'a-bl.

**pres'en-ta'tion**, 1 prez'en-tẽ'shon; 2 præ'ẽn-tã'shon, *not* 1 pri'zen tẽ'shon; 2 præ'ẽn-tã'shon.

**pre-sen'ti-ment**, 1 pri-sen'ti-ment; 2 præ-sẽn'ti-ment, *not* 1 pri-len'ti-ment; 2 præ-sẽn'ti-ment.

**prism**, 1 prizm; 2 priȝm, *not* 1 priz'um, 2 priȝ'ũm.

**pris'tine**, 1 pris'tin; 2 prĩs'tin, *not* 1 pris-tĩn'; 2 prĩs-tẽn', *still less* 1 pris-tain'; 2 prĩs-tĩn'.

**prob'a-bly**, prob'æ-bli—three clear syllables—never prob'li; the latter an error so frequent, and so fixed in some minds, that the word is even written *proably*.

**pro-duce**, 1 pro-diũs'; 2 pro-dũç', } "I am going to

**prod'uce**, 1 pred'yũs; 2 prõd'yũç', } the Pro-duce' (1 pro-diũs'; 2 pro-dũç') Exchange." Surely not. You do not mean an institution to *produce* (1 pro-diũs'; 2 pro-dũç') exchange, but one for the exchange of prod'uce (1 pred'yũs; 2 prõd'yũç'). A few authorities pronounce the noun 1 prõ'diũs; 2 prõ'dũç, but there is absolutely no authority for placing the accent on the last syllable. We must say, "The Prod'uce (1 pred'yũs; 2 prõd'yũç) —or possibly Pro'duce (1 prõ'diũs; 2 prõ'dũç)—Exchange."

**pro'gram**, 1 prõ'gram; 2 prõ'grãm, *not* 1 prõ'grm; 2 prõ'gr̃m, any more than tel'e-gram should be pronounced tel'e-grm.

**pro-ject'ile**, 1 pro-jek'til; 2 pro-jẽe'til, *not* 1 pro-jek'tail; 2 pro-jẽe'til.

**prom'ise**. Always properly refers to the future; as, "I *promise* to go"; "I *promise* to pay." An affected misuse makes it equivalent to *assure*, and even refers it to the past; as, "I was frightened, I *promise* you": a faulty usage parallel to that of *expect*. See EXPECT. *Promise* ordinarily refers to something desired or desirable. Hence the odd effect of such a headline as:

"Assassination *promised* to all officials."

In such case "*threatened*" would better express the meaning.

**pro-vi'ding**, *not* "Providing he has the money," but "Provided he has the money."

**psalm.** Pronounce *not* 1 sam; 2 sām, *but* 1 sūm; 2 sām.  
See CALM.  
**pu'er-ile,** 1 piū'ər-il; 2 pū'er-īl, *not* 1 piū'ər-ail; 2 pū'er-īl,  
*nor* 1 piū'rīl; 2 pū'rīl.

## Q

**Quad-ru'ma-na,** 1 kwəd-rū'mə-nə; 2 kwəd-ru'ma-na,  
*not* 1 kwəd-rū-mē'nə; 2 kwəd-rū-mā'na.  
**quan'ti-ty.** "A great *quantity* of fossil remains *were*  
found." Say rather: "*—was* found." Omit the  
dependent words "of fossil remains," and it is at once  
seen that we must say, "a great *quantity . . . was*  
found." Compare ONE.\*  
**quar'el,** 1 kwer'el; 2 kwār'ēl, *not* 1 kwerl; 2 kwārł.  
**quash,** 1 kwēsh; 2 kwāsh, *not* 1 kwaśh; 2 kwāsh.  
**quite some.** A local colloquialism, wholly indefensible.  
**quo'rum,** 1 kwō'rum; 2 kwō'rūm, *not* 1 kwē'rum; 2  
kwō'rūm.  
**quo'tient,** 1 kwō'shent; 2 kwō'shēnt, *not* 1 kwō'shunt; 2  
kwō'shūnt.

## R

**rad'ish,** 1 rad'ish; 2 rād'ish, *not* 1 red'ish; 2 rēd'ish.  
**ra-gout'** 1 ra-gū'; 2 rā-gū'.  
**raise,** } "He was so weak that he could not *raise*." No:  
**rise,** } "— so weak that he could not *rise*." "*Raise,*"  
meaning "to cause to rise," is never to be used intransi-  
tively. "He could not *raise* in the saddle"—(*raise*  
what?); the meaning is: "He could not *rise*." But  
we correctly say: "He could not *raise* himself, his  
hand, or his head." Compare LIE and LAY; SIT and  
SET.  
**raise chil'dren.** *Raise*, "to rear (an animal)," is never  
to be used of bringing human beings to maturity:  
a misuse common in the southern and western United  
States. Cattle are *raised*; human beings are *brought up*,  
or, in older phrase, *reared*. Do not say, with the West-  
erner, "I have *raised* ten children," nor, with the old  
slave "Auntie," "I've *raised* thirteen head o' children."  
**rare'ly or ev'er.** Incorrect for *rarely if ever*.  
**rath'er,** 1 rath'ər or rāth'ər; 2 rāth'ər or rāth'ər, *not* 1  
ruth'ər; 2 rūth'ər. Avoid the vulgarism that converts  
*I'd rather* into *I druther*.  
**ra'tion-al,** 1 rash'ən-əl; 2 rāsh'on-al, *not* 1 rē'shun-əl; 2  
rā'shūn-al.  
**re'al,** 1 rī'əl; 2 rē'al, *not* 1 ril; 2 rēl.  
**re'al-i-za'tion,** 1 rī'əl-i-zē'shən; 2 rē'al-i-zā'shon, *not*  
1 rī'əl-aiz-ē'shən; 2 rē'al-iz-ā'shon.  
**re'al-ize,** 1 rī'əl-aiz; 2 rē'al-iz, *not* 1 rī'laiz; 2 rē'lia.  
**re'al-ly,** 1 rī'əl-lī; 2 rē'al-y, *not* 1 rī'lī; 2 rē'ly.  
**reb'el,** 1 reb'el; 2 rēb'ēl, *not* 1 reb'l; 2 rēb'l.

\* For fuller statement of the rule in such cases, see under  
PLURAL in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DIC-  
TIONARY.

- re-cluse'**, 1 rī-klūs'; 2 re-clūs', *not* 1 rī'klūs; 2 rē'clūs.  
**rec'og-nize**, 1 rek'əg-naiz; 2 rēe'ōg-nīz, *not* 1 rek'un-aiz;  
 2 rēe'ūn-iz.  
**rec'on-nol'ter**, **rec'on-nol'tre**, 1 rek'ə-nei'tar; 2 ree'-  
 ō-nōi'ter, *not* 1 rī'kən-nei'tar; 2 rē'eōn-nōi'ter.  
**rec're-ant**, 1 rek'rī-ənt; 2 rēe're-ant, *not* 1 rī'cri-ənt; 2  
 rē'cre-ant.  
**rec're-ate**, 1 rek'rī-ēt; 2 rēe're-āt, *to take recreation*.  
**re'ac-re-ate'**, 1 rī'kri-ēt': 2 rē-ere-āt', *to create anew*.  
**re-demp'tion**, 1 rī-demp'shən; 2 re-dēmp'shon, *not* 1 rī-  
 dem'shən; 2 re-dēm'shon.  
**ref'er-ence**. "In reference to." Better say: "With  
 reference to," of which the appropriate negative is  
 "without reference to."  
**re-gard'**. "In regard to that." Better say: "With  
 regard to that"; or one may say, "as regards this or  
 that." *or*, "regarding this or that."  
**rep'tile**, 1 rep'til; 2 rēp'til, *not* 1 rep'tail; 2 rēp'til.  
**rere'dos**, 1 rir'des; 2 rēr'dōs, *not* 1 rī-rī'des; 2 re-rē'dōs.  
**re-source'**, 1 rī-sōrs; 2 re-sōrç, *not* 1 rī'sōrs; 2 rēs'sōrç.  
**re-spect'**. "In respect to this." Better say: "With  
 respect to this." Compare REFERENCE; REGARD.  
**res'pite**, 1 res'pit; 2 rēs'pit, *not* 1 re'spait; 2 rēs'pīt.  
**re-stor'a-tive**, 1 rī-stor'a-tiv; 2 re-stōr'a-tiv, *not* 1 rī-  
 ster'a-tiv; 2 re-stōr'a-tiv.  
**re-tail'**, *vt.*, 1 rī-tēl'; 2 re-tāl', } "The grocers rī-tēl'  
**re'tail**, *a. & n.*, 1 rī'tēl; 2 rē'tāl, } sugar at five cents a  
 pound when they sell at rī'tēl in rī'tēl stores.  
**revisit again**. "I hope to *revisit* the place *again*."  
 Say simply: "— to *revisit* the place." The prefix  
*re-* of itself signifies *back, again, anew*; hence to add one  
 of these adverbs to a verb compounded with *re-* is  
 tautological. See BACK.  
**rhyme**. An old false spelling in imitation of *rhythm*.  
 The correct spelling *rime* (from the Anglo-Saxon *rim*)  
 is now coming to be preferred.  
**rhythm**. Pronounced 1 rīthm *or* rīfhm; 2 rŷthm *or*  
 rŷthm *not* 1 rīfh'um; 2 rŷ'thŭm; one syllable, *not* two.  
**right, a.; that's right**.

First Speaker: "The robber shot him in the back, took  
 his watch and money, and left him dead in the road."

Second Speaker: "That's *right*!"

It must be a singular code of ethics that would  
 call such conduct *right*. The phrase is really meant to  
 indicate that the first speaker has stated the facts cor-  
 rectly. In such case one had better say: "That is  
 (that's) the *fact*" or "that is (that's) *true*." "That's  
*right*," as now indiscriminately used, is becoming a  
 very odious form of slang.

**right, n.** "If you do that, you've a *right* to be arrested."

This use of *right* in the sense of liability is a barbarism.  
 The true phrase would be: "You are *liable* to be ar-  
 rested," or, perhaps, "You *deserve* to be arrested."  
 What a person has a *right* to, he is supposed to desire



or claim, which is not the case when he is told, "You have a *right* to fall and break your neck."

**rime.** The correct spelling for the erroneous *rhyme*.

See RHYME.

**rind,** 1 *raind*; 2 *rind*, *not* 1 *rind*; 2 *rĭnd*.

**risk,** 1 *risk*; 2 *rĭsk*, *not* 1 *resk*; *rĕsk*.

**road, coat,** etc. Do not confuse *ō*, as in "go" with *a*, as in "obey." Say *rōpe* (*rōp*), *rōad* (*rōd*), *cōat* (*cōt*), etc.

Learning condemns beyond the reach of hope,  
The careless churl that speaks of *sōap* for *sōap*;  
Her edict exiles from her fair abode  
The clownish voice that utters *rōad* for *rōad*;  
Less stern to him who calls his *cōat* his *cōat*,  
And steers his *bōat*, believing it a *bōat*,  
She pardoned one, our classic city's boast,  
Who said at Cambridge, *mōst* instead of *mōst*,  
But knit her brows and stamped her angry foot  
To hear a Teacher call a root a root.

O. W. HOLMES *A Rhymed Lesson* st. 43.

**ro-bust'**, 1 *ro-bust'*; 2 *ro-bŭst'*, *not* 1 *rō'bŭst*; 2 *rō'bŭst*.

**ro-mance'**, 1 *ro-mans'*; 2 *ro-mănc'*, *not* 1 *rō'mans*; 2 *rō'mănc*.

**roof,** 1 *rŭf*; 2 *rōōf*, *not* 1 *ruf*; 2 *rōōf*.

**root,** 1 *rŭt*; 2 *rōōt*, *not* 1 *rut*; 2 *rōōt*. That is, the diphthong should be sounded like *oo* in *food*, *mood*, *smooth*, *not* like *oo* in *foot*.

**route.** The pronunciation *raut* (as if *rowt*) is possible, but better say *rŭt* (like *root*), as the latter pronunciation is favored by all the chief dictionaries and by a great preponderance of other authorities. See **ROOT**.\*

**ruse,** 1 *rŭz*; 2 *rŭş*, *not* 1 *rŭs*; 2 *rŭş*.

## S

**sac"ri-le'gious,** 1 *sak"ri-lĭ'jus*; 2 *săc"ri-lĕ'gŭs*, *not* 1 *sak"ri-lij'us*; 2 *sac"ri-lĭg'ŭs*. Nor should the word be spelled *sacreligious*; the word is not derived from *religion*, but is simply the adjective of *sacrilege*.

**sa-ga'cious,** 1 *sə-gĕ'shus*; 2 *sa-gă'shŭs*, *not* 1 *sə-gash'us*; 2 *sa-găsh'ŭs*.

**said,** 1 *sed*; 2 *sĕd*, *not* 1 *sĕd*; 2 *sĕd*.

**sales'la"dy.** A hopeless abomination. Why not also "salesgentleman"? If *salesman* is a worthy term to apply to a man, its appropriate counterpart is *saleswoman*, which is the only correct term.

**Sal'ic,** 1 *sal'ik*; 2 *săl'ic*, *not* 1 *sĕ'lik*; 2 *să'lic*.

**san'guine,** 1 *san'gwin*; 2 *săŋ'gwin*, *not* 1 *san'gwain*; 2 *săŋ'gwin*.

**san"i-ta'ri-um,** } Use either word, but do not try to  
**san"a-to'ri-um.** } blend the two.

**sar"sa-pa-ril'la,** 1 *săr"sə-pə-ril'ə*; 2 *săr"sa-pa-rĭl'a*, *not* 1 *sas"-ə-pə-ril'ə*; 2 *săs"a-pa-rĭl'a*.

\* For a full exhibit of the preferences of the various dictionaries, see "route" in Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY, where may be found the various pronunciations of this word in its different meanings (p. 2139).

**scallop.** By arbitrary exception pronounced 1 *skel'ap*; 2 *seal'op*.

**scis'sors,** } In trade usage, all such instruments *less*  
**shears.** } than six inches in length are termed *scissors*,  
while all exceeding that length are shears."\*

**seck'el** (variety of pear), 1 *sek'l*; 2 *sëk'l*, not 1 *sik'l*; 2 *sik'l*.

**sec're-ta'ry**, 1 *sek'ri-të'ri*; 2 *sëc're-tä'ry*, not 1 *sek'u-të-ri*; 2 *sëc'ü-tä'ri*.

**sel'dom or ev'er.** A person may say: "I *seldom* if *ever* use that word," i. e., "I *seldom* use it, if indeed I *ever* do so"; or he may say, using a slightly more emphatic form: "I *seldom or never* do it," i. e., "I do it very *seldom* at the utmost, or (in my own opinion) probably *never*." Either of the latter is correct, but "*seldom or ever*" is incorrect.

**sep'a-rate.** As verb, 1 *sep'a-rët*; 2 *sëp'a-rät*; as adjective, 1 *sep'a-rit*; 2 *sëp'a-rat*; never 1 *sup'a-rët*; 2 *süp'a-rät*.  
**Sup'pu-rate**, 1 *sup'yu-rët*; 2 *süp'yu-rät*, is a wholly distinct word, meaning "to form pus," etc.

**set, sit.** In strict grammatical usage *sit* is always intransitive when referring to posture; *set*, transitive. The uses meaning "to sit on eggs" ("the hen *sets*") and "to fit" ("the coat *sets* well or badly") are colloquialisms.

**sew'age,** } "To carry the *sewerage* down-stream."

**sew'er-age.** } By no means. *Sewerage* is the system of sewers; *sewage* is the waste matter carried in them.

You wish a current "to carry the *sewage* down-stream."

**shall,** } "I *will* drown! Nobody *shall* help me!" Every

**will.** } one sees that in this stock example, the Frenchman should have reversed his auxiliaries, unless he meant to commit suicide. "I *shall* drown! Nobody *will* help me!" would have been a pathetic appeal. Yet the misuse of these little words is very prevalent. The simplest brief explanation is the inflection of the two verbs, viz.:

## SIMPLE FUTURE.

I *shall*  
Thou *wilt*  
He *will*  
We *shall*  
You *will*  
They *will*

PURPOSE, COMMAND,  
OR OBLIGATION.

I *will*  
Thou *shalt*  
He *shall*  
We *will*  
You *shall*  
They *shall*.†

**sharp.** "At ten o'clock *sharp*"; "Look *sharp*." Effect-

\* In the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY, each set of words has been defined or passed upon by a representative of the science or art, or of the handicraft, party or class, or religious denomination, to which the terms respectively belong.

† Thorough and accurate explanation of this difficult usage will be found under *SHALL* and *WILL* in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

tive colloquialisms, not in most elegant use, *sharp* in such case being an adverb. See the definition of *sharp*, *adv.*, in the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

**shrill**, 1 shril; 2 shrĭl, *not* 1 sril; 2 srĭl.

**shrine**, 1 shrain; 2 shrĭn, *not* 1 srain; 2 srĭn.

**shrink**, 1 shrĭnk; 2 shrĭnk, *not* 1 srĭnk; 2 srĭnk.

**shrub**, 1 shrub; 2 shrŭb, *not* 1 arub; 2 srŭb.

**shrug**, 1 shrug; 2 shrŭg, *not* 1 srug; 2 srŭg.

**side'ways**. Better say, *sidewise*.

**sigh**, 1 sai; 2 sĭ, *not* 1 saith; 2 sĭth, *nor* 1 saith; 2 sĭth (scythe). (The two latter pronunciations are common provincialisms.)

**since**, *adv.*, 1 sins; 2 sĭnç, *not* 1 sens; 2 sĕnç. Used in the sense of *ago*, it refers to quite recent past time, while *ago* covers past time in general; as, "A messenger was here to see you." "How long *since*?" or "How long *ago*?" But, if one says, "The Spanish Armada was destroyed off the coast of England," to ask "How long *since*?" instead of "How long *ago*?" would have a grotesque effect, as if the event had happened lately.

I brought you word an hour *since*.

SHAKESPEARE *Comedy of Errors* act iv, sc. 3.

"He died a century *ago*."

**sir'up**, **syr'up**, 1 sir'up; 2 sĭr'ŭp, *not* 1 sur'up; 2 sĭr'ŭp.

**sleek** 1 slĭk; 2 slĕk, *not* 1 slik; 2 slĭk.

**slough** (1 sluf; 2 slŭf), *the cast skin of a serpent*.

**slough** (1 slau; 2 slou, or 1 slŭ; 2 slŭ), *a deep, miry place*.

**soft'ly**. "She spoke in a *softly* tone." No: "She spoke *softly*," or "in a *soft* tone." There are adjectives that terminate in *-ly*, as *friendly*, *goodly*, *kindly*, etc., but *softly* is always and only an adverb. See **KINDLY**.

N.B.—This is not an extreme case, for the usage condemned is in some popular publications.

**sold'er**, 1 sed'ar; 2 sŏd'er, *not* 1 sē'dar; 2 sa'der.

**sol'e-cism**, 1 sel'ī-sizm; 2 sŏl'e-çĭsm, *not* 1 sŏ'le-sizm; 2 sŏ'l'ē-çĭsm.

**sol'stice**, 1 sel'stis; 2 sŏl'stĭç, *not* 1 sŏl'stis; 2 sŏl'stĭç.

**sort of**. "I felt *sort of* weak." Better say: "I felt *rather* weak," or "*somewhat* weak." *Sort of* in such use is a colloquialism, and, as corrupted to *sorter*, a vulgarism. One may properly say: "I felt *a sort of* weakness," where the noun *sort* is used as a noun, and not perverted to do duty as an adverb. See **KIND OF**.

**spasm**, 1 spazm; 2 spăsm, *not* 1 spaz'um; 2 spăç'ŭm. See **ELM**.

**spe'ci-al'i-ty**, 1 spesh'ī-al'ī-tī; 2 spesh'ī-ăl'ī-ty, } "Chem-

**spe'cial-ty**, 1 spesh'el-tī; 2 spesh'al-ty. } istry is his *speciality*." No: "his *specialty*." *Speciality* is the state or quality of being special; *specialty* is an employment to which one is specially devoted, an article in which one specially deals, or the like.

**spe'ci-es**. The same in singular and plural. Do not

use *specie* as the singular of *species*. *Specie* is a distinct word, meaning coin.

**splen'did.** "He is a *splendid* player." Better say: "— a *fine, accomplished, or skilful* player." *Splendid* is applied properly to something characterized by *splendor*; hence, its indiscriminate application to anything admired or agreeable, as "a *splendid* man," "a *splendid* dinner," "a *splendid* bargain," is a gross *misuse*.

**spoon'fuls.** "Take three *spoonsful*." Better say: "Take three *spoonfuls*," unless you mean that the spoons are to be taken. *Spoonful* is a word meaning the contents of a spoon or what a spoon will hold. When the *spoonful* is taken, the spoon is left. There may be a *spoonful* with no spoon, as at the bottom of a cup after drinking. Give *spoonful* its own plural, which is *spoonfuls*. The same rule holds of *armful*, *cupful*, *mouthful*, etc.

**stead'i-ly**, 1 *sted'i-lī*; 2 *stēd'i-ly*, not 1 *stid'i-lī*; 2 *stīd'i-ly*.

**stead'y**, 1 *sted'i*; 2 *stēd'y*, not 1 *stid'i*; 2 *stīd'y*.

**stop,** } "He is stopping in Washington this winter."

**stay.** } Better say: "He is *staying* in Washington." To *stop* is to cease moving or acting: the reverse of *start*. "I shall *stop* at Baltimore on my way to Washington" is correct; but "How long will you *stop*?" is as unreasonable a question as "How long will you *start*?" The proper question is: "How long will you *stay* (or *remain*)?"

The true meaning of the word *stop* was well understood by the man who did not invite his professed friend to visit him: "If you come, at any time, within ten miles of my house, just *stop*."

MATHEWS *Words, Their Use and Abuse*, ch. xiv, p. 359.

**strat'e-gist**, 1 *strat'i-jist*; 2 *strāt'e-gist*, not 1 *strē-tī'jist*; 2 *strā-tē'gist*.

**strength**, 1 *strenth*; 2 *strēngth*, not 1 *strenth*; 2 *strēnth*.

**stu'pid**, 1 *stiū'pid*; 2 *stū'pid*, not 1 *stū'pid*; 2 *stōō'pid*.

**suav'i-ty**, 1 *swav'i-tī*; 2 *swāv'i-ty*, not 1 *sū-av'i-tī*; 2 *sōō-āv'i-ty*.

**sub-scribe'.** "I have subscribed to that magazine."

No, you have subscribed *for* it. One subscribes *to* a creed, statement, or proposition, *for* a periodical, etc.

**such.** "I never have seen *such* a man" means "I never have seen a man like that one in appearance or character." "I never have seen *such* a tall man" may be intended to mean "I never have seen a tall man like this one in appearance or character," in which case the form is allowable; or it may mean "I never have seen *so* tall a man," in which case the meaning should be so expressed.

**sug-gest'**, 1 *sug-jest'*; 2 *sūg-gēst'*, not 1 *sul-jest'*; 2 *sūg-gēst'*.

**suite**, 1 *swit*; 2 *swīt*, not 1 *sūt*; 2 *sōōt*.

**sup'ple**, 1 *sup'l*; 2 *sūp'l*, not 1 *sū'pl*; 2 *sōō'pl*.

**sup-plies'.** See PLURALS.

**sure.** "I'm going *sure*." Better say: "I'm *surely* going." Do not say: "*Sure enough*, that's the same man," but "*surely*" or "*certainly*."

## T

**tap'es-try**, 1 tap'es-trı; 2 tãp'ës-try, *not* 1 tẽp'es-trı; 2 tãp'ës-try, *nor* 1 tap'strı; 2 tãp'stry, *nor* 1 tep'strı; 2 tẽp'stry.

**ta-ran'tu-la**, 1 ta-ran'tiu-lə; 2 ta-răn'tũ-la, *not* 1 tar-an-tiu'lə; 2 tãr-ăn-tũ'la.

**te'di-ous**, 1 tĩ-di-üs; 2 tẽ'di-űs, *not* 1 ti'jus; 2 tẽ-gűs.

**teeth'ache**". "He has the *teethache*." No: "He has the *toothache*," however many teeth may be aching. See PLURALS.

**the.** Error by omission. "The choice is between the army and navy." This would seem to imply that army and navy were one. Say either, "The choice is between *the* army and *the* navy," or omitting *both* articles, "The choice is between army and navy." See ARTICLES.

**their,** } "If any one has been overlooked *they* may raise  
**they.** } *their* hand." Better say something quite different, for "any one" can not be "*they*." This error arises from the lack, in our language, of a singular pronoun of common gender. No one but a lawyer would care to say "if any one has been overlooked, *he* or *she* may raise *his* or *her* hand." The common solutions are: (1) To alter the construction, using the definite article, where it is necessary, instead of the pronoun; as, "Any one who has been overlooked may raise *the* hand," or "if any of you have been overlooked you may raise your hand." (2) To use *he* in its general sense as representing both masculine and feminine.

**tho,** } The shorter and simpler form, *tho*, is now  
**though.** } gaining wide use and approval.\*

**thou'sand**, 1 t̃hau'zənd; 2 thou'sand, *not* 1 t̃hau'zən; 2 thou'san.

**tick'lish**, 1 tik'lĩsh; 2 tĩk'lĩsh, *not* 1 tik'l-ish; 2 tĩk'l-ish.

**ti'ny**, 1 tai'nı; 2 ti'ny, *not* 1 ti'nı; 2 tẽ'ny, *nor* 1 tin'ı; 2 tĩn'y.

**tooth'ache**", *not* teeth'ache." See PLURALS.

**trans'mi-grate**, 1 trans'mi-grêt; 2 trãns'mi-grât, *not* 1 trans-moi'grêt; 2 trãns-mĩ'grât.

**trans-par'ent**, 1 trans-pār'ent; 2 trãns-pār'ënt, *not* 1 trans-pẽ'rent; 2 trãns-pã'rënt.

**trans-pire'**. "The earthquake *transpired* on the 22d." Impossible! When there is an earthquake, people are likely to know it on the instant. *Transpire* is used of something hidden or unobserved that comes to light;

\* In the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD' DICTIONARY are included several thousands of the simplified forms of words recommended for adoption by the Simplified Spelling Board and the American Philological Association.



as, "He was supposed to be rich, but after his death it *transpired* that he was bankrupt." Events *take place*, *occur*, *happen*. "The earthquake *occurred* on the 22d." *trek*, } The first is the preferred form of this South-  
*treck*, } African word, as derived from the Dutch *trek-*  
*ken*, draw.\*

**tre-men'dous**, 1 tri-men'dus; 2 tre-mën'dūs, *not* 1 tri-men'-jus; 2 tre-mën'-jūs.

**trod, trodden**. "You have *trodden* (not *trod*) on my foot." In poetry the use of *trod* as past participle is not uncommon.

**true**, 1 trū; 2 try, *not* 1 triū; 2 trū.

**truths**, 1 trūths; 2 tryths, *not* 1 triūthz; 2 trūthz.

**Tues'day**, 1 tiūz'dɪ; 2 tūs'dy, *not* 1 tūz'dɪ; 1 tooz'dy, *nor* 1 chiūz'dɪ; 2 chūs'dy.

**tune**, 1 tiūn; 2 tūn, *not* 1 tūn; 2 toon.

## U

**un-**. In the use of words beginning with *un-* as expressive of negation, care must be taken not to join them in the same construction with antecedent negatives. "The policy of the company was announced in *no* unmistakable language." "*No* unmistakable language" is, of course, "*mistakable* (or ambiguous) language"—the reverse of what the speaker or writer of the sentence meant to say. A similar caution applies to words beginning with *in-*. "He was not *indifferent*," meaning that he cared.

**u-nique'**. We may say *quite unique* if we use *quite* in its full sense of "totally, perfectly," meaning absolutely singular or without parallel, but we can not properly say *very unique*.

**un-wa'ry**, 1 un-wē'rɪ; ũn-wā'ry, *not* 1 un-wār'ɪ; 2 ũn-wār'y.

**ur-ban'i-ty**, 1 ūr-ban'ɪ-tɪ; 2 ūr-bān'i-ty, *not* 1 ūr-bē'nɪ-tɪ; 2 ūr-bā'ni-ty.

**used**, 1 yūzd; 2 yusd, *not* 1 yūst; 2 yust: as, "Get used (yūzd) to study." Especially avoid the vulgarism yūs'ter.

**u-surp'**, 1 yu-zūrp'; 2 yu-sūrp', *not* 1 yu-sūrp'; 2 yu-sūrp'.

**ut'ter**. The adjectival use of *utter* in any but an unfavorable sense is erroneous. *Utter nonsense*, *not utter sense*; *utter discord*, *not utter harmony*; *utter darkness*, *not utter light*. The same is true of the adverb *ut'ter-ly*.

\* In the Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY, the spelling, pronunciation, and definition, of each of the more than 100 classes of words was in the care of a specialist in that department, Anglo-African words being supervised by the eminent African explorer, Sir Harry Johnston and the late Sir Henry M. Stanley.

## V

**vac'ci-nate**, 1 vak'si-nēt; 2 vǎc'ci-nāt, *not* 1 vas'i-nēt; 2 vǎc'i-nāt.

**va-ga'ry**, 1 vǎ-gē'rī; 2 va-gǎ'ry, *not* 1 vē'gar-i; 2 vǎ'gar-y.

**val'u-a-ble**. Properly used only of things that have monetary worth or that possess a precious or useful character or quality. "One of our most *valued* contributors has sent us several *valuable* articles" is correct. Transposition of the adjectives would make the sentence faulty.

**va'ri-e-gate**, 1 vē'rī-i-gēt; 2 vǎ'ri-e-gāt, *not* 1 vē'rī-gēt; 2 vǎ'ri-gāt, *nor* 1 vē-rai'gēt; 2 vǎ-rī'gāt.

**vaude'ville**, 1 vōd'vil; 2 vōd'vīl, *not* 1 vēd'vil; 2 vōd'vīl, *nor* 1 vē'de-vil'; 2 vō'dě-vīl'.

**ve'he-ment**, 1 vī'hī-ment; 2 vē'hēm-ēnt, *or* 1 vī'i-ment; 2 vē'e-mēnt, *not* 1 vi-hī'ment; 2 vē-hē'mēnt.

**ve'nal** and **ve'ni-al**. Theft on the part of a starving man is a *venial* sin, but the act is *not venal*; embezzlement by a bank cashier is *venal*, but *not venial*.\*

**ven'i-son**, 1 ven'i-zən; 2 vĕn'i-son, *or* 1 ven'zən; 2 vĕn'-son, *not* 1 ven'i-sun; 2 vĕn'i-són.

**ve-rac'i-ty**. Said only of persons or their statements, not of facts, while *truth* is applicable to both persons and facts. It would be incorrect to speak of the *veracity* of anything that has been done or has come to pass. A man is or is not considered a person of *veracity*; a story is or is not *true*.

**ver-bos'i-ty**, 1 vĕr-bes'i-tī; 2 ver-bōs'i-ty, *not* 1 vĕr-bō'sī-tī; 2 ver-bō'si-ty.

**ver'shon**, 1 vūr'-shən; 2 vĕr'shon, *not* 1 vūr'zən; 2 vĕr'-zhon.

**ver'y**, 1 ver'i; 2 vĕr'y, *not* 1 var'i; 2 vǎr'y. See MERRY.

**vet'er-i-na-ry**, 1 vet'ər-i-nē-rī; 2 vĕt'er-i-nā-ry, *not* 1 vet'rī-ne-rī; 2 vĕt'ri-nĕ-ry.

**vic'ar**, 1 vik'ər; 2 vĕc'ar, *not* 1 vai'kər; 2 vī'ear.

**vic'i-nage**, 1 vis'i-nij; 2 vĭc'i-nāg, *not* 1 vai'sī-nij; 2 vī'ci-nāg.

**vĭc'to-ry**, 1 vik'to-rī; 2 vĕt'o-ry, *not* 1 vik'ter'i; 2 vĕc'tēr'y, *nor* 1 vik'tri; 2 vĕc'try.

**vil'lain**, 1 vil'in; 2 vīl'in, *not* 1 vil'un; 2 vil'ūn, *nor* 1 vil'yūn; 2 vīl'yūn.

**vī'o-lon-cel'lo**, 1 vī'o-len-chel'lo [It.] *or* vai'o-len-sel'o; 2 vī'o-lōn-chēl'lo *or* vī'o-lōn-sēl'o. This word has no connection with *violin*. The *violoncello* is a reduced form of the *violone* (1 vī'o-lō'nē; 2 vī'o-lō'nē), the great medieval double-bass viol, and the name *violoncello* is a diminutive, not of *violin*, but of *violone*.

**vir'u-lent**, 1 vir'u-lent; 2 vīr'u-lēnt, *not* 1 vūr'u-lent; 2 vīr'ū-lēnt.

\* See *synonyms* under "VENAL" and "VENIAL," as well as the definitions of the two words, in Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

**vis'count**", 1 vai'kaunt; 2 vi'count, *not* 1 vis'kaunt; 2 vis'count.  
**vā'clous**, 1 vai-[or vi-]vē'shus; 2 vi-[or vi-]vā'shūs; *not* 1 vai-[or vi-]vash'us; 2 vi-[or vi-]vāsh'ūs.  
**viz'or**, 1 viz'ar; 2 viz'or, *not* 1 vai'zər; 2 vi'zor.

## W

**waft**, 1 waft; 2 wāft, *not* 1 waft; 2 wāft, *nor* 1 wēft; 2 waft.

**wan'der-ing**, 1 wen'-dər-in; 2 wān'der-ing, *not* 1 wen'-driŋ; 2 wān'dring.

**weap'on**, 1 wep'an; 2 wēp'on, *not* 1 wī'pən; 2 wē'pon.

**Wednes'day**, 1 wenz'di; 2 wēng'dy, *not* 1 wed'nəz-dī; 2 wēd'neŋ-dy.

**went for gone**. "If I had *went*." Say rather: "If I had *gone*." The imperfect *went* is often vulgarly used for the past participle *gone* in conjunction with the verb *have*; as, "I *have went* there many times," instead of "I *have gone*," etc.†

**where**. "Where was I at, Mr. Speaker?" This celebrated utterance justly raised a question as to the sobriety of the honorable member. *Where* is not to be followed by *at* or *to*. Not, "*where* is it *at*," but *where* is it?"; not "*where* are you going *to*," but simply "*where* are you going?"

**who**. "*Who* do you refer to?" Say rather: "*Whom* do you refer to?" *Whom* is the object: "You refer to *whom*," A more formal question is: "*To whom* do you refer?"

**whom**. A New York paper asks:

Is it proper for a Judge to scold a Grand Jury from the bench for refusing to indict a person *whom* the Judge thinks ought to be indicted?

Not *whom* but *who*, as the subject of the verb "ought"—"*who* ought to be indicted." This error of putting the relative in the same case with its antecedent is constantly made. But the case of the relative is determined by the construction of its own clause. Never use *whom* unless you can show of what preposition or verb it is the object. In the instance above quoted, it would be better to change the form of the sentence, saying, for instance, "refusing to indict a person *who*, as the judge thinks, ought to be indicted," or "*who*, in the opinion of the judge, ought," etc.

**will**. See *shall*.

**win'dow**, 1 win'do; 2 wīn'do, *not* 1 win'der; 2 wīn'dēr.

**with-out'**. "I'll come *without* it rains." Say rather: "I'll come *unless* it rains."

† Consult *Faulty Diction* as presented in Funk & Wagnalls NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

## Y

**yacht.** Pronounced 1 yet; 2 yæt, *not* 1 yat; 2 yăt.

**yel'low,** 1 yel'o; 2 yěl'o, *not* 1 yel'er; 2 yěl'ër, *nor* 1 yil'o; 2 yīl'o.

**yon'der,** 1 yen'dær; 2 yǒn'dær, *not* 1 yen'dær; 2 yĕn'dær, *nor* 1 yun'dær; 2 yŭn'dær.

**you and I.** "That will be good for *you and I*." Better say:—"for *you and me*." The two pronouns here are in the same construction, and both alike in the objective case. We may omit the first, with the conjunction, when we have "That will be good for (*you and*) *me*." Or if we supply before the second pronoun the preposition which is understood, every one will see that the sentence must be: "That will be good for *you and* (for) *me*." But you may say: "*You and I* will enjoy that," because in this latter sentence both pronouns are alike nominatives.\*

**youths,** 1 yŭths; 2 yuths, *not* 1 yŭthz; 2 yuthz.

## Z

**zeal'ot,** 1 zel'æt; 2 zěl'ot, *not* 1 zī'let; 2 zē'lot.

**zo"o-log'ic-al,** 1 zō"o-lej'i-kæl; 2 zō"o-lǒg'i-cal, *not* 1 zū"o-lej'i-kæl; 2 zŭ"o-lǒg'i-cal.

**zo-ol'o-gy,** 1 zo-el'o-ji; 2 zo-ǒl'o-gy, *not* 1 zū-el'o-ji; 2 zŭ-ǒl'o-gy. These and other words with the same first element are in many instances oddly pronounced zū-ology, zū-ophyte, etc.—a mistake that begot *Zoo* as the abbreviation in England for the Zoological Gardens.

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\* Consult *Faulty Diction* as presented in Funk & Wagnall's NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY.

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**For Keys to Symbols used, see page 2.**

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